Hafa Adai!

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OPINION METER

This week's poll:

After you buy a new computer, what do you do with the old one?

Let your voice be heard! Go to www.saipantribune.com to cast your vote.

3 DAYS until Sept. 16, when Aggreko generators are to start working

INSIDE

In Memoriam

Familiar rituals of grief marked the seventh anniversary of Sept. 11 on Thursday.

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9/11 Victims

Megan Donovan was 11 when her father was killed at the Pentagon.

YOUNGSTYLE...Page 17

West Arrest

Kanye West is arrested for helping smash a paparazzo's camera on the floor.

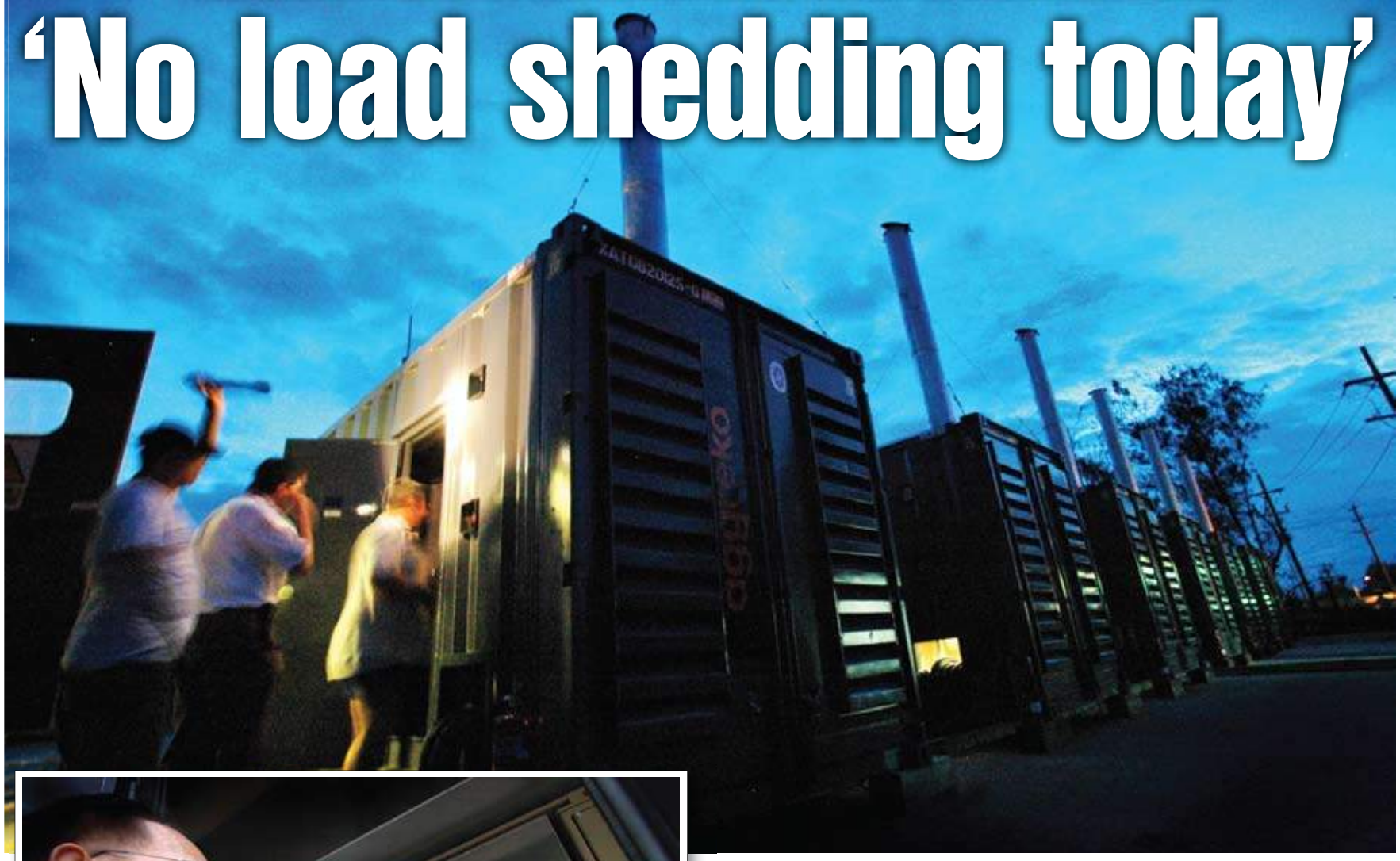
LIFE & STYLE...Page 20

New Rota Resort owners eye honeymooners, more flights. **PAGE 2**

DPS stops issuing permits for burning trash. **PAGE 2**

AGGREKO ENGINES TURNED ON, ADD 13 MWS

'No load shedding today'



JACQUELINE HERNANDEZ

Crewmembers double-check the emergency Aggreko generators before turning it on late yesterday afternoon in Lower base. Inset shows Gov. Benigno Fitial turning the switch on.

By KRISTI EATON
kristi_eaton@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Gov. Benigno Fitial flipped a switch yesterday evening, turning on the first of 16 Aggreko generators.

Afterward, Aggreko employees turned on 15 more generators that will immediately provide 13 megawatts of emergency power to the island. Two more generators, providing two megawatts of power, are expected to arrive next week.

See NO LOAD on Page 4

Shell lowers prices—again

By STEFAN SEBASTIAN
stefan_sebastian@saipantribune,com
BUSINESS EDITOR

Shell gas stations on Saipan lowered prices overnight Friday despite a slight jump in global oil costs linked to Hurricane Ike's path through the Gulf of Mexico.

NEW SHELL PRICES

	SELF SERVICE	FULL SERVICE
Regular	$4.37	$4.50
Premium	$4.54	$4.66
Diesel	$5.19	$5.19

In a statement, Eloy Lizama, president of Shell Marianas, said prices at stations in the CNMI would drop for the second time in less than a month Friday night. Prices, he said, would lower by 10 cents for Shell's regular and premium gas and by 15 cents for diesel fuel. The price change had yet to take effect at press time.

"Shell will again lower the price of Shell unleaded and Shell premium gaso-

See SHELL on Page 4

Judge orders Miura's extradition

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Miura

Superior Court Associate Judge Ramona Villagomez Manglona denied Kazuyoshi Miura's petition for habeas corpus yesterday and ordered his extradition to Los Angeles, California, where he is facing charges in connection with the killing of his wife in 1981.

Manglona also denied a request by Miura's lawyers to stop the execution of the order as they are appealing the decision to the CNMI Supreme Court.

These decisions prompted William M. Fitzgerald, one of Miura's three lawyers on Saipan, to file yesterday afternoon with the CNMI Supreme Court

See JUDGE on Page 4

Local

New Rota Resort owners eye honeymooners, more flights

By STEFAN SEBASTIAN
stefan_sebastian@saipantribune.com
BUSINESS EDITOR

The new owners of the recently purchased the 600-acre Rota Resort & Country Club are revamping it to take advantage of a growing tourism market, newlyweds, and have begun efforts to improve air service to the island.

In an interview Friday, Hee K. Cho, chief of Rota Resort LLC, a branch of JMSH LLC, the company that purchased the struggling resort last month for a confidential sum, said renovations are now being done to transform it into a honeymoon destination.

"I want to get this resort into the wedding industry," Cho said, adding that the renovations include refurbishing the suites to make them more suitable to newlyweds and establishing a wedding chapel.

The renovations at the resort come as Cho is vying to boost air service to Rota through talks with Freedom Air on increasing the number of seats available on its flights. In addition, Cho

See NEW on Page 4

LEN'S 5 TAVERN
1st Anniversary!
Sat. Sept 13th 2:00 p.m. to 2:00 a.m.

Hosting Saipan's 1st "SHRIMP FESTIVAL"
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Drink Specials ALL Day & Night!
A pound of steamed shrimp and 2 Domestic Beers – $16

DPS stops issuance of burning permits

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Department of Public Safety has suspended the issuance of burning permits as well as all previously issued permits effective yesterday due to complaints that smoke emissions could pose a danger to health.

DPS spokesperson Lei Ogumoro said they have also suspended the open burning of trash or vegetation.

"We're enforcing this because of complaints from the community regarding smoke emission coming from the burning of garbage," Ogumoro said in a press conference.

She said smoke emissions pose health risks to neighbors of people who are burning trash and a danger to those who have respiratory problems.

As an alternative, people should instead gather their vegetation or trash and bring them to the trash stations in Lower Base and in Marpi, said firefighter Dan Suel of DPS Fire Prevention Section.

"We have been conducting public education [about] the Open Burning Act and we still find people conducting open burning without permits," Suel pointed out.

He said they are going to stop open fire burning of trash.

"We are also trying to educate people that we really mean what we…say," he said.

Suel said they are stopping the issuance of burning permits until further notice.

"We are trying to promote a healthy environment throughout the island of Saipan," he added.

Suel said the Attorney General's Office is still drafting the regulations as well as the penalties for violators.

Firefighter Paul Sasamoto of the DPS Forestry Section emphasized that it is illegal to burn garbage at one's residence.

Sasamoto said it is also prohibited to burn oil, rubber, and other similar materials, which would produce unreasonable amounts of air contaminants.

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COASTAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Coastal Resources Management Office (CRMO) will hold a public hearing regarding Coastal Permit Application No. TMS-2008-X-074 submitted by Marianas Resort Development Company, Inc. through its authorized representative William S. Hofschneider, Consulting Engineer for the Matua Bay Resort & Golf Course Project. The project will be constructed in 2 phases which include: Phase I: 18-hole golf course, practice range, maintenance facilities, nursery, irrigation wells, piping and storage ponds, water supply wells & piping networks, reverse osmosis plant, wastewater treatment plant, stormwater retention ponds, back-up power generation facilities, re-alignment of 8th Avenue, public shoreline access; Phase II: Hotel and amenities, casino, parking stalls, plaza and water feature, chapel, tennis courts, pool and staff housing.

The public hearing will be held on Wednesday, October 01, 2008 at 6:30 pm, at the Tinian Elementary School Cafeteria, in San Jose Village, Tinian.

The public is invited to attend the hearing and make oral comments regarding this application. The Matua Bay Resort project file is open for review 7:30 A.M. – 4:30 P.M. Monday – Thursday at the CRM office. Written comments may be submitted to the CRM Office located on the 2nd floor of the Morgen Building in Oleai, mailed to Coastal Resources Management Office, Caller Box 10007, or faxed to 664-8315. All written and oral comments received will be made a part of the permit application record, and will be considered in any decision made concerning the proposed project.

Please contact Coastal Resources Management at 664-8300/1 if you have any questions or require further information regarding this public hearing.

JOHN B. JOYNER, Ph.D.
Director
Coastal Resources Management Office

Tinian amphitheatre complete in 2 months

By STEFAN SEBASTIAN
stefan_sebastian@saipantribune.com
BUSINESS EDITOR

Completion of a new amphitheatre at Tinian's Natibu Park that will serve as an events center for the island's residents is just over two month away, with construction crews now working on its rooftop.

In an interview Thursday, William Cing, adviser to Tinian Mayor Jose San Nicolas, said the new amphitheatre, funded through a $553,000 federal grant, will give the island's residents a new venue for school plays, weddings, concerts and public meetings.

"It will be a multipurpose amphitheatre where people can gather," Cing said, adding it will seat an estimated 200 people.

Construction on the project began earlier in the summer and, according to staff at the Northern Marianas Housing Corp., which is overseeing the grant, the theatre is slated for completion Nov. 23.

Cing said workers are now engaged in the metalwork needed to finish the roof. NMHC staff added that work on a parking lot and seating for the theatre will also soon begin.

Although Tinian already has a pavilion that is somewhat akin to a theatre, Cing said the new amphitheatre will feature lighting and a sound system, along with dressing rooms and spots for local vendors that will make it a more distinctive venue. The amphitheatre will also have ramps and other features designed to cater to people with limited mobility.

Planning for the amphitheatre began under the previous mayoral administration, Cing added.

STEFAN SEBASTIAN
A new amphitheatre at Natibu Park on Tinian is under construction. The project is funded through a federal grant.

MONUMENT
No to Monument!
We are already protecting CNMI Marine Resources.

Rules set for delegate bets' forum

There will be a public forum for the candidates running for the CNMI delegate position at the Kagman Community Center on Sept. 20 at 6pm. It will be hosted by the Kagman Komunidat Association. Candidates will get the chance to present themselves and where they stand on issues affecting the CNMI, particularly in its dealings with the federal government.

There are nine candidates running for this Nov. 4 election. They are Resident Rep. Pete A. Tenorio, former senator David Cing, television talk show host John Oliver Gonzales, retired judge Juan T. Lizama, businessman Chong Won, Sen. Luis Crisostimo, former Election Commission executive director Gregorio "Kilili" Sablan, high school teacher and Vietnam War veteran John Davis, and Saipan Municipal Council member Felipe Atalig.

The format of the forum will be as follows:

1) Candidate Introduction: Candidates will introduce themselves for a maximum of two minutes. They do not have to use up the whole two minutes for this.

2) Questions and answers: The audience will write down some questions, and the Kagman Komunidat Association will screen them for appropriateness. The questions will then be asked by the two co-hosts. There will be a total of nine questions asked. Each candidate will have one minute to answer each question. Each candidate will be timed and cut off when time is up.

3) Final remarks from the candidates: Each candidate will have five minutes to convince the audience to vote for them through their closing remarks. They will also be timed.

Entrance will be limited to 100 people, so the Kagman Komunidat Association will implement a "first-come, first-serve" entrance policy. There will be no exceptions, it said.

"Come and get to know the candidates before voting for them. May the best candidate win and represent the people effectively," the association said in a statement. ***(PR)***

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AS NATION MARKS 7TH ANNIVERSARY OF 9-11

Guam kicks off anti-terrorism exercise

GUAM—Members of the Guam National Guard, the island's first response community, business community and military liaisons from all armed forces, kicked off a multi-state National Guard Bureau homeland security exercise here yesterday as those on the U.S. mainland memorialized the worst terrorist attack on American soil.

Maj. Gen. Donald Goldhorn, the adjutant general of Guam, speaks with combined working group representatives from local, federal, military and civilian agencies at the Guam National Guard Barrigaba Complex Sept. 12 in the opening tabletop exercise of Vigilant Guard Guam. Vigilant Guard Guam is a multi-day National Guard homeland defense series of exercises designed to enhance the Guard's capabilities and abilities to support to civil authorities in an emergency.
U.S. AIR FORCE/MASTER SGT. MIKE R. SMITH

Vigilant Guard Guam simulates a mock terrorist attack on the island and U.S. territory with its population of nearly 180,000.

"The things that we are doing here are not just pretend," said Maj. Gen. Donald Goldhorn, the adjutant general of Guam. This exercise will greatly benefit everyone on Guam to help us better prepare for potential future threats, added Goldhorn.

"It's ironic that today we recognize 9/11 on the mainland and that we are kicking off this exercise. Seven years ago today it was very, very real, and we have to remember that and keep that as part of our focus," said Goldhorn.

Vigilant Guard is a regional exercise program sponsored by the National Guard Bureau. The program provides an opportunity for State National Guard Joint Force Headquarters, State Joint Task Forces and Field Units to improve command and control and operational relationships with internal, regional civilian, federal operational relationships with internal, regional civilian, federal and military partners against homeland security threats.

In addition, throughout Sept., Guam will join the nation in the celebrating National Preparedness Month and will continue to remind our residents of the importance of planning and preparing for natural and man-made disasters such as typhoons, earthquakes and tsunamis, floods and terrorist events, according to a Guam Homeland Security press release. ***(PR)***

CLARIFICATION

In yesterday's story, "Tinian transformer essential," the status of the air conditioners was misstated. There is air-conditioning in the classroom, Board of Education chair Lucy Blanco-Maratita said. "Not all the aircons in the classrooms are powered up, and the school makes sure that the load remains low so as not to overload the current transformer," she said.

NO LOAD

From Page 1

"This gives us at least a year of breathing room," Fitial said of the generators.

Local officials, including Finance Secretary Eloy Inos, House of Representatives Vice Speaker Joseph Deleon Guerrero and Rep. Stanley Torres, gathered around 5pm at CUC's power plants in Lower Base to watch.

Fitial shook hands with CUC executive director Antonio Muña and Aggreko sales director Steve Dunlop after he flipped the switch at 6:45pm.

Muña said the generators are a big relief.

"Not just for myself, but for the public," he said.

Now residents can sleep better at night and CUC employees can have more manageable hours, he added.

Muña said there should be no load shedding today. The island was running on approximately 27 to 28 megawatts yesterday before the generators were turned on. An additional 13 megawatts will provide the island with 40 to 41 megawatts. Approximately 41 megawatts are needed to power the island 24-hours a day. The three power plants have provided as little as 19 megawatts a day during the last few weeks.

With the 13 megawatts up and running, CUC can now focus on other issues, Muña said.

"We can get back to focusing on the service aspect and the responsibilities to the public," he added.

Aggreko was the first of three phases, he said. Phase two—the overhaul of the old engines—and phase three—a long term solution to the power situation—can get underway, Muña said.

Aggreko's Dunlop flew in yesterday morning to watch the operation.

"It's nice to be back here… I flew in this morning just to be here to make sure everything turns out. I made [Fitial] a lot of promises, obviously. I'm happy to see it happening. It's been three years in the making."

Aggreko was contracted to initially provide 10 megawatts of power today, but Dunlop decided to add 13.

"I realized the situation on the island, and I was quite keen to add more to help," he said.

Several government officials in attendance said it was important to remember the Aggreko generators were a temporary solution.

"All this really does is provide relief and stability," Deleon Guerrero said. "It gives us breathing room and gives us the window to develop a long term plan for the island."

It is now time for officials to put their differences behind them and come together to find a solution, he said.

"There's plenty of blame to go around for how we got into this situation, but never mind that," Deleon Guerrero added. "It's time to come together and think long term."

He said providing cheap and reliable power is the ultimate goal.

One solution is privatization, which CUC will begin looking at, Fitial said.

"We'll let the professionals handle it," he added.

Fitial said a private company should do the power generation and CUC should continue with the distribution.

CUC will begin looking at independent power producers and put out a request for proposals as soon as possible, Fitial said.

"We don't need to wait for the engines to be totally rehabilitated," he said, adding that most are unable to be repaired.

Under the Aggreko contract, CUC must pay $6 million dollar for the generators. CUC paid a down payment of $1.5 million for the initial shipment. They must pay Aggreko an additional $536,000 within 30 days.

NEW

From Page 2

is aiming to boost the number of charter flights from Japan or gain regularly scheduled flights from there to the island. Cho has also organized a host of efforts to market Rota as a destination to travel agents throughout the Pacific.

"For sure, you will see much, much more business coming to Rota," he said.

On Guam, JMSH owns the Alupang Beach Tower, the Garden Villa, the Mai'Ana Hotel, Horizon Condominiums and the Holiday Resort there.

Perry Tenorio, managing director of the Marianas Visitors Authority, said in an interview that Rota is a key component of the CNMI's tourism industry and welcomed the new owners of the resort.

"Rota is an important part of the tourism package of the CNMI," Tenorio said. "There are services there now that we will continue to support. MVA will continue to work with the new owners."

The Rota Resort features an 18-hole golf course, a spa and dining halls.

The sale of the resort to JMSH comes as the Hotel Association of the Northern Marianas Islands in newly released statistics is reporting a significant drop in the number of hotel room nights sold in the CNMI during the month of August when compared to the same month last year. Hotels in the association sold 52,998 room nights last month, far fewer than the 57,386 sold in August 2007.

SHELL

From Page 1

line and Shell diesel fuel," Lizama said, adding that since the company's most recent price reduction on Aug. 28, the cost of gas for Shell had "declined and Shell will pass these savings on to our customers."

Based on previous figures, Shell's move brings its prices on Saipan to $4.37 per gallon for regular, self-served gas, $4.50 per gallon for regular gas with full service. Premium gas prices fall to $4.54 per gallon self-served and $4.66 per gallon with full service. Diesel prices come to $5,19 per gallon.

The price drop arrives as fears over Hurricane Ike's progression through the Gulf of Mexico and its impact on energy platforms there caused oil prices to rise in the New York Mercantile Exchange Friday over their recent five-month low by 82 cents to $101.69 per barrel.

Meanwhile, statistics from AAA show the CNMI still has some of the highest gas prices in the United States. The current national average for a gallon of regular gas is $3.67.

JUDGE

From Page 1

an emergency motion for a stay of extradition and removal, pending their appeal.

Just as Manglona was concluding her oral decision, seven Corrections officers entered the courtroom and six of them ranged themselves behind the 61-year-old Miura, who was silently sitting beside his interpreter and three lawyers.

Further arguments, however, ensued when another Miura lawyer, Bruce Berline, stood up and showed the court copies of their motions to stay and appeal.

Fitzgerald argued that the court should wait for just two weeks because the California court is expected to issue a ruling in Miura's motion to quash the warrant and dismiss the case by Sept. 26.

"It's common sense that that we should simply wait [for] that decision," Fitzgerald said.

In denying the petition for habeas corpus, Manglona said she thoroughly reviewed all the pleadings and precedents mentioned in the case.

Citing previous 9th Circuit rulings, Manglona said it is clear that the whole double jeopardy issue cannot defeat the habeas petition proceeding in the courts of an asylum state.

Manglona said she finds the arrest of Miura under a governor's warrant valid and that since all the requirements of the extradition statute have been met, she has the mandate to order his extradition.

"I argue with the arguments of the prosecution that some points are not contested," said the judge, referring to the issues whether the extradition documents on their face are in order, whether the petitioner has been charged with a crime in the demanding state, and whether he is a fugitive.

Manglona said Miura has the right to appeal and that she is going to issue a written decision.

At this juncture, Berline informed the court that they have a motion to stay and appeal.

"If removed, he will lose his appellate right and the appeal will be moot," Berline asserted.

Assistant Attorney General Jeffery Warfield Sr. asked the court to deny the motion to stay, arguing that it has no merit and that it is only intended to further delay the case.

"There is no ground for appeal. Your court can't ignore the law," Warfield told Manglona.

Fitzgerald joined in the argument: "I'm not asking you not to follow the law! I'm asking you to follow the law!"

Warfield said that Miura's extradition should take place at once because his lawyers have not presented any legal arguments that they're likely to succeed before the Supreme Court.

"Our statutes require and appellate court rules require that an appeal must be taken in good faith. You have to have some success or some possibility of success of winning on the merits," Warfield said.

In a later interview, Warfield said they've already stated before that, in reviewing a habeas corpus petition in an extradition matter, there are only four questions that a judge should consider.

"One, is it the right person that's named in the warrant? He can basically say it, 'Yes I'm Kazuyoshi Miura,'" the prosecutor said.

The second, he said, is whether or not Miura was present in California when the crime was committed.

"We all agree and he agreed that, 'Yeah, in 1981 I was there with my wife.' Did he leave California after the crime was committed? Yes, he did he went back to Japan," Warfield said.

The other issue is, whether or not Miura is charged with the crime in the state of California.

"We have a valid arrest warrant from the State of California charging him with murder and conspiracy to commit murder," Warfield pointed out.

And the fourth question, he said, is a technical issue—whether all the paperwork sent from California are appropriate and sufficient.

"The court found that yes, it is. And that's it. That's the only thing the court can look at. They [Miura's lawyers] continually tried to argue that he couldn't be prosecuted in California because of double jeopardy but our courts could not look at double jeopardy issues," he said.

Warfield said it is up to the California court to rule if there is a double jeopardy defense.

"That's not for us to decide. We don't look at his guilt or innocence. The only thing that we look at is: Is he the person wanted by the State of California? If he is, we're obligated by the Constitution. We have to send him [there]," he added.

Warfield said he does not know when Miura will be sent to California.

After yesterday's hearing, Warfield said he called the L.A. District Attorney's Office to inform them about Manglona's ruling. He said the LADA will contact the L.A. Police Department to let them know that Miura is now ready for extradition.

"It is up to them to make the flight arrangements to get him back to California. I have no idea when they are going to come," he said.

In the emergency motion filed with the Supreme Court, Fitzgerald said the appeal raises serious issues and the hardship of extradition would weigh heavily against Miura.

Fitzgerald said in order to preserve the high court's jurisdiction and Miura's right to appeal these substantial due process questions, the court should immediately stay the extradition.

The high court, he said, should order that Miura be not removed from the CNMI until a mandate of the court is issued.

DUE TO ECONOMIC DOWNTURN, HIGH POWER COSTS

Hollywood Theatres to close twice weekly

By STEFAN SEBASTIAN
stefan_sebastian@saipatribune.com
BUSINESS EDITOR

Hollywood Theatres, Saipan's only cinema, will soon begin closing twice each week to cope with a downturn in business and high electricity costs, staff with the theatre told the *Saipan Tribune* Friday.

The theatre, which closed earlier this year and then later reopened, will scale back its operation by shutting its doors on Wednesday's and Thursdays, a staff member said.

In April, the movie theatre closed with its parent company, Wallace Theatre Corp., citing poor economic conditions in the CNMI and rising operational costs. It later reopened one month later after the company reviewed financial projections and weighed the major outpouring of public support the theatre saw when it closed.

During the month-long period the theatre remained closed, video stores reported a major upswing in business and a company owned by a Los Angeles talk show host expressed interest in taking it over.

The theatre, next to the Price Costco, opened in 1999.

Man'amko learn how to operate computer

Getting familiarized with the basic operations of a computer, becoming comfortable with the features of a keyboard, and understanding how to use a word processing program were just a few of skills that many *man'amko* students learned at a recent Northern Marianas College computer literacy course designed for senior citizens.

The course, offered through the Division of Community Programs and Services' Community Development Institute, is part of the college's mission to provide customized, continuing educational and professional development opportunities in response to community needs.

A total of 27 students, referred by the Department of Cultural and Community Affairs' Office on Aging, are participating in short-term computer classes at NMC, titled "Understanding PCs and How They Work" and "How to Properly Use a Computer Keyboard." Many of the students mentioned that they are enjoying the new adventure and are interested in participating in future classes, according to CDI's Carol Hosono.

"The Northern Marianas College is committed to bringing computer literacy and other skills to our *man'amko* in the Commonwealth," said NMC president Dr. Carmen Fernandez. "The ongoing classes will ensure that they reap the benefits of today's technology and that they are active participants in the information age."

The classes began on Aug. 25, 2008 and will last until Sept. 18, 2008. For more information, contact David John Apatang at 234-5498 ext. 1019. ***(NMC)***

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Man'amko students learn the basics of using a computer during a computer literacy course offered by the Northern Marianas College's Community Programs and Services Division.

MONUMENT

Indigenous practices and cultural strategies already maintain our marine resources.

No to Monument!

Joseph I. Torres Jr.
Annalé S. Torres
P.O. Box 500631
Saipan, MP

pro se

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

In Re The Guardianship of: E.J.S.T, a minor By: Melva Torres and Michael Respicio Petitioners	))))))))	FCD-GU CIVIL ACTION NO. 08-0498 **ORDER SHORTENING TIME AND NOTICE OF HEARING**

GOOD CAUSE APPEARING, It is hereby ordered that the time for notice of hearing for Petitioner(s) petition be shortened and that the hearing be set on September 22, 2008 at 9:00 a.m.

Dated this 11th day of September, 2008.

/s/ KENNETH L. GOVENDO,
Associate Judge

Maria Iguel and Johnny Sam
P.O. Box 501262
Saipan, MP 96950

Telephone No.: 285-1930/323-6567

pro se

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

In The Matter Of The Adoption Of: E.J.I.S., Minor Child By: JOHNNY SAM and MARIA I. IGUEL, Petitioners.	))))))))	FCD-AD-CIVIL ACTION NO. 08-0548 **NOTICE OF HEARING**

Notice is hereby given that the above-entitled matter is set for a hearing on October 16, 2008, at 1:30 p.m. in Courtroom 205A, before the Associate Judge Kenneth L. Govendo.

Dated this 12th day of September, 2008.

Bernadita A. Sablan
Clerk of Court

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Opinion

Hafa Adai!
Saipan Tribune
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EDITORIAL

Adjusting to 9/11

Thursday marked year seven in a "war on terror" not of our making, and possibly not in our power to end. In scale and deadliness, the attacks of 9/11 were comparable to Pearl Harbor, so it's little wonder that they were interpreted as an act of war. But by taking on a movement rather than a government, the United States has confronted unprecedented legal and procedural challenges that continue to haunt it—and will do so long after a new president takes power, particularly if the current occupant of the Oval Office has his way.

In recent months, the Bush administration has been reaffirming its wartime powers by inserting language in legislation, rewriting intelligence procedures and changing regulations. For example, The New York Times reports that the administration added a provision to a proposal for hearing legal appeals from detainees at Guantanamo Bay that asks Congress to "acknowledge again and explicitly" that the U.S. is at war with al-Qaida, the Taliban and related movements.

Bush doesn't need such declarations in order to continue the war in Afghanistan; that was authorized by Congress on Sept. 14, 2001. Rather, he seems to be trying to solidify the legal justification for some of his administration's most questionable policies, such as holding detainees indefinitely at Guantanamo Bay or carrying out wiretapping operations on Americans without a court order. The goal, apparently, is to make such policies permanent, or at least give his successor the option of continuing them.

The effort brings up a question that's been plaguing us since 9/11: Should we consider our conflict with terrorists a war or a police action? Certainly it doesn't fit the usual definition of a war. Victory in Afghanistan won't come when every Taliban adherent is dead or captured, nor is there likely to be an armistice agreement—it will come when the Afghan government is strong enough to take on the terrorists by itself. Preventing another attack on the homeland isn't a war, it's a security challenge. It's not so much a question of "winning" this conflict, which will be with us until the Islamic extremism movement fades away, as it is deciding when it ceases to be a so-called war on terror and becomes a fight against terrorism.

The consequences of our war footing are not only restrictions on our freedom and privacy that would never be tolerated under ordinary circumstances, but the expenditure of billions of dollars on measures that may not be justified. As just one example, is the degree of danger posed by the theoretical possibility that terrorists might put a "dirty bomb" in a shipping container really great enough to justify the amount we're spending to prevent it from happening?

Bush argues that the measures he has put in place are the reason the United States hasn't suffered a major terrorist attack on its soil since 9/11. Maybe that's true. Or maybe the threat just wasn't as great as the administration has made it out to be. We don't have the answer to that question, but perhaps, seven years after the attacks, emotions have cooled to the point where we can at least debate it more seriously.

(c) 2008, Los Angeles Times

AMERICA'S FIRST BLACK PRESIDENT OR AMERICA'S FIRST FEMALE VICE PRESIDENT... EITHER WAY, I'M GOING TO BE QUITE BUSY...
History
KOEKKOEK
OMAHA WORLD-HERALD

Why secessionists don't like the U.S.

By CHRISTOPHER KETCHAM
SPECIAL TO THE LOS ANGELES TIMES

Sarah Palin's secessionist sympathies sparked minor hysteria last week. Her crime was hailing with round praise the work of the cranky Alaskan Independence Party, which advocates a statewide plebiscite on the secession of Alaska from the United States. "The fires of hell are frozen glaciers compared to my hatred for the American government," the party's late founder, gold miner Joe Vogler, once said. "And I won't be buried under their damn flag."

Palin's husband was a member of the AIP for seven years, and Palin herself has courted the AIP for more than a decade. In an address to the party convention this spring, wearing a ski parka and looking like she was about to decamp into the back country, Palin told the secessionists, "Keep up the good work." Dexter Clark, the white-bearded vice chairman of the AIP, recently explained the motivation behind the "good work": "Through oppression, greed, corruption, incompetence and folly, the (U.S. government) is forfeiting its moral authority."

The thing is, it's not just residents of the Last Frontier who favor breaking away from the Union. According to a Zogby poll conducted in July, more than 20 percent of U.S. adults—1 in 5, about the same number of American Colonists who supported revolt against England in 1775—agreed that "any state or region has the right to peaceably secede from the United States and become an independent republic." Some 18 percent "would support a secessionist effort in my state."

The motivation of these quiet revolutionaries? As many as 44 percent of those polled agreed that "the United States' system is broken and cannot be fixed by traditional two-party politics and elections."

Put this in stark terms: In a scientific, random sample poll of all Americans, almost half considered the current political system to be in terminal disorder. One-fifth would countenance a dissolution of the bond. This is not a hiccup of opinion. In an October 2006 poll conducted by the Opinion Research Corp. and broadcast on CNN, 71 percent of Americans agreed that, "Our system of government is broken and cannot be fixed."

No surprise that the disquiet finds a voice in popular movements. In 2007, a small group of delegates to the second North American secessionist convention—the first was in Burlington, Vt., in 2006—met in Chattanooga, Tenn., to discuss how to foment the collapse and destruction of the United States of America. They came representing 11 rebel groups in 36 states, under banners such as the Republic of Cascadia (wedding Oregon and Washington), Independent California (forging the world's fifth-largest economy), the United Republic of Texas (returning the Lone Star State to its aloneness), the League of the South (uniting the secessionist states of old Dixie) and the Second Vermont Republic (separating the Green Mountain State from the U.S.).

The dominant idea among the delegates was that the U.S. experiment had failed; it had become impractical, tragically ridiculous, its leaders and institutions bought off, prostituted, unaccountable and unanswerable to the needs of citizens. The United States would have to be reborn smaller—our loyalties realigned to the needs of localities—if the American dream was to survive. The convention presented, in effect, a marriage of progressives, paleoconservatives, libertarians, Christian separatists, Southern nationalists, all united "to put an end to the American empire and re-establish freedom and democracy on the state and regional level," as organizer Kirkpatrick Sale put it.

The delegates settled on a list of principles they called the Chattanooga Declaration. "The deepest questions of human liberty and government facing our time go beyond right and left, and in fact have made the old left-right split meaningless and dead," the declaration read. "The privileges, monopolies and powers that private corporations have won from government threaten ... health, prosperity and liberty, and have already killed American self-government by the people." The answer, it continued, was that the American states "ought to be free and self-governing."

The Declaration of Independence 250 years earlier asked for a similar dedication to self-governance: "(W)henever any form of government becomes destructive ... " wrote Thomas Jefferson, "it is the right of the people to alter or to abolish it, and to institute new government."

It could be held that secession is the primal American act, as old as the concept of the states themselves. What else did our founders accomplish in 1776 but secession from the tyranny of England? In other words, what the secessionists would claim is that although they are anti-United States, they are most certainly pro-American.

Secession worries the staid opinion gatekeepers of the major media. Sarah Palin's "flirtation" with the AIP should make us "uneasy," as columnist Rosa Brooks warned. Palin's secessionist ties raise "serious questions," averred the New York Times. A more honest assessment is that the separatism of the Alaskan Independence Party is not so weird or wacky—or out of keeping with what appears to be a sentiment rooted in that loveliest of American predilections, our crotchety contrarianism.

Ketcham contributes to GQ, Vanity Fair, Harper's and many online publications. He is writing a book on American secessionism.

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In the words of my speechwriter...

By DAVID MCGRATH
SPECIAL TO THE WASHINGTON POST

The year was 1972, and an ad in *Chicago Today* ("Wanted: Writers. Flexible hours.") led me to an upper floor of a building on LaSalle Street. I was 21, desperate for a job and wearing the Montgomery Ward suit I'd gotten for graduation. Before long, I was shaking hands with the president of Termpapers Inc., who hired me without bothering to look at the portfolio I brought along.

That day, I accepted orders for a 15-page paper on Bantu education in Africa and a 10-pager on the Attica prison riot. I earned $2 per page for the prison paper and $3 per page for the Bantu report, since it was for a graduate course.

Six weeks and approximately 50 term papers later, I showed up at LaSalle Street to collect another assignment, only to find a notice taped to the door: "Closed by order of the U.S. Marshal."

Government lawyers had gotten a cease-and-desist order on the basis of fraud, forgery, plagiarism and subversion of the educational system. Harvard University vowed to follow up with lawsuits against term-paper mills for breaking "an implicit educational contract" between colleges and students.

Standing before that sealed door, I was in mild shock. Yes, the work had felt nefarious at first, but I had been assured by the company president that it was all aboveboard. We writers were agreeing to let someone else use our words for fair compensation. "Just like political speechwriters," was his rationale.

Today, selling term papers to students to use as their own is still illegal, but selling speeches to politicians to use as their own remains a legitimate enterprise.

How can that be?

Consider how we react to college students who buy term papers, to author Alex Haley plagiarizing in "Roots" or to Sen. Joe Biden cribbing a few lines from a British politician in 1987. All are judged to be acting improperly because they used others' words without attribution. Yet those using the words of unacknowledged speechwriters get a free pass.

What's the difference?

The fact that the writers give permission to the speakers to pretend it's their own work does not make it okay. That's exactly what happens with term-paper mills. Just ask Jacksonville State University President William Meehan, who in 2007 was publicly embarrassed and officially denounced after it was discovered that his weekly column in a local paper had routinely been ghostwritten by the college's publicist.

Nor can second-party speechwriting be justified because it isn't journalism or scholastic scholarship. Some speechwriters have likened their profession to screenwriting, penning dialogue to be spoken by others. But in the entertainment world, the audience buys seats to witness a fiction. They know the actors don't write their own material, and authors are acknowledged in screen credits or theater programs.

When was the last time you saw or heard a writer credited at the end of a speech by John McCain or Barack Obama?

Nor can the difference be that political audiences are already aware that politicians employ speechwriters. Granted, it can be easy to determine when President Bush is reciting from someone else's script and when he is ad libbing in his own fractured English. But how can we know whether a line, or an entire speech, comes from the brains of McCain or Obama, or from hired staffers?

All those years ago, Harvard's lawyer referred to the implicit understanding between teachers and students. Isn't it even more important that there be a contract of honesty between candidates for high office and voters?

When Richard Nixon used to recite the essays of his speechwriter William Safire, you ended up knowing quite a bit about Safire and little or nothing about Nixon. Think how much more we might have known, and how history might even have been different, had Nixon spoken his mind from the start.

Can voters this year be sure they learned something about the real Sarah Palin from her GOP vice presidential nomination acceptance speech Wednesday night, considering news that it was originally written by speechwriter Matthew Scully over a week ago for an unknown male nominee? The commissioned draft was subsequently customized by Palin and a team of McCain staffers in the 48 hours leading up to its presentation.

Psychologists, composition teachers, college admissions officers and personnel directors all know that when it comes to extracting truth and character, there is no more reliable indicator than a person's original, written words. Why, then, as we watch two finalists compete for the most important job in the world, do we tolerate their lip-syncing of someone else's creation?

If contemporary political candidates cannot find time to write all their speeches, the way Teddy Roosevelt or Abraham Lincoln did, they should at least craft the major ones. And when they must use speechwriters, they should credit the writer at the conclusion so the public knows the true source of the work.

David McGrath teaches English at the University of South Alabama.

The devil, you say

By JOEL STEIN
SPECIAL TO THE LOS ANGELES TIMES

My parents have been calling me while I've been at the conventions for the last two weeks, asking if I have any "news." These people clearly don't read my columns like they say they do.

I explained to them that the odds of securing an otherwise unreported tidbit at a staged event attended by every journalist in the world were about the same as anyone actually saying the Republican convention was in St. Paul, where it technically was, instead of Minneapolis, a city people have heard of. So my dad clarified that he was hoping I'd witnessed some politician saying something stupid. Preferably racist or sexist or really mean, but a notable factual slip-up would do.

Even smart people like my parents, I realized, would rather hear about something personal than policy. That's why John McCain, who got no traction with voters out of his weeklong poverty tour of the South, came out with the poll-changing, idiotic attack ad comparing Barack Obama to Paris Hilton. It's why we know far more about Sarah Palin's family tree than her record as governor. It's why Obama now wears a flag lapel pin. It's because we, the voters, are shallow.

We respond to gaffes and insults and ignore platforms and proposals. Which is why tiny, unintended quotes—Hillary Rodham Clinton's slip-up about Robert Kennedy being assassinated in June, or her not "as far as I know" reply to a question about the Obama-is-a-Muslim rumors—can blow up into huge issues that the candidates suddenly have to address.

Such faux scandals seem ridiculous and unfair. And, as a member of the news media, I've desperately wanted to create one.

I got my opportunity last week in Denver at the Democratic National Convention. I was at a party thrown by San Francisco Mayor Gavin Newsom featuring a bunch of indie bands, including Clap Your Hands Say Yeah, which played its catchy new song "Satan Said Dance." The chorus goes like this: "Satan! Satan! Satan! Satan! Satan! Satan! Satan! Satan! Satan!" And I had my video camera.

So, under huge H-O-P-E letters and alongside giant posters of Obama as Abraham Lincoln, the band started yelling, "Satan! Satan! Satan!" And by the second chorus, the entire crowd of hundreds starting singing along, shouting, "Satan! Satan! Satan!," many pumping their fists in the air. That's when it finally struck me that video of the Democratic Party faithful chanting for the devil was footage Sean Hannity would love to broadcast over and over. Even the Rev. Jeremiah A. Wright Jr. would not approve of this tape.

Unfortunately, I am not very good with video cameras. Also, altitude makes beer more potent, as does drinking a vast quantity of it. So my video is dark, the H-O-P-E is out of frame and I missed the audience chant altogether. But I did capture the band yelling "Satan! Satan! Satan!"

So I'm putting the video on YouTube as an experiment to see if it, too, can be lifted from its context and used to rally the Republican base. I hope it gets ludicrously e-mailed around by the far right as proof that Obama is the antichrist, or winds up on "The O'Reilly Factor," or, at the very least, it merits a footnote in the next book by Jerome Corsi.

To anyone at the party, it was obvious there were no devil worshipers in the house, unless devil worshipers now masquerade as dorky policy wonks in tan blazers. Luckily, you can't tell any of that from my tape, which mostly captured dark blurs and the low, muttered words "Satan! Satan! Satan!" Which is perfect quality for a viral video, I suspect.

The song itself is a silly little tale about a guy forced to dance as punishment in hell:

"He says to me to shake around/and don't stop until you hit the ground/And I know it is not how you thought it would be/No whips, no chains, just dancing."

It's not Dylan, but it is not about electing Beelzebub for president either. Though that might actually be a better song.

And if for some reason the right doesn't embrace my video, I offer this underreported fact to the left: Playing a party at the Republican National Convention was a band called Styx.

Stein is a columnist for the Times. E-mail Stein at jstein@latimescolumnists.com.

No knock on knocked up?

By FRANK HARRIS III
SPECIAL TO THE HARTFORD COURANT

It used to be that a teen or young woman who was pregnant and unmarried would leave town to live with relatives in another part of the country where no one knew her name.

Or slip away to some other refuge.

Or be the bride in a shotgun wedding orchestrated by her father, brothers or uncles.

Or seek an abortion.

All of these choices were influenced by the public's prevailing social stigma about becoming pregnant without marriage.

But times change—as evidenced by Republican vice presidential candidate Sarah Palin and her husband's statement concerning the out-of-wedlock pregnancy of their 17-year-old daughter Bristol: "We're proud of Bristol's decision to have her baby and even prouder to become grandparents."

Times change.

When I was 15 or 16, a white teacher asked me what it was about the number of black girls walking around high school pregnant. I too had noted that the unwed pregnant teens were all black.

I remember saying that it didn't make sense since there was contraception available to prevent that.

"But what about the moral question?" he asked, meaning the moral idea of having sex before marriage. Or in other words—abstinence.

It was a good question, though the question stopped short of querying the morals of the guys who got them pregnant.

That was in the early 1970s. And, just as I had noted all the unwed pregnant teens were black, I noted that you didn't see white girls pregnant in high school.

Now there are white girls pregnant in high school.

Times change.

The change came before such movies as "Knocked Up" and "Juno," though these movies help solidify the increase in unwed pregnant teens as socially acceptable.

According to the Center for Disease Control's National Center for Health Statistics, teen birth rates have risen for the first time in 15 years. Being pregnant before wedlock is no longer the social taboo it once was.

Also according to the CDC's National Vital Statistics Reports in 2000, there were 89,500 children born to unwed mothers nearly six decades ago in 1940, representing just 4 percent of all births.

By 2006, the number was 1.6 million births to unmarried mothers, representing 38 percent of all births. That's four out of 10 births to unmarried mothers. Many of these births are to teens.

Who's having the babies? The highest increase in the teen births continues to be black teens, at 5 percent, followed by American Indian or Alaska Native teens at 4 percent, white non-Hispanics at 3 percent and Hispanics at 2 percent.

The fact is there have always been girls pregnant without matrimony. It's just the numbers have climbed while the social stigma has fallen. It's no longer a big deal that celebrity stars have babies out of wedlock, be they older women such as Halle Berry or teens such as Jamie Lynn Spears, the latter who reportedly sent a gift to Bristol Palin.

Times change.

Is it a good change?

I keep thinking about the Palin family response about feeling proud.

Frankly, I don't buy it.

While they might be proud that she chose life for the baby, it seems doubtful they would be proud that their daughter would be in the position she is in now, having to face the challenge of raising a child at such a young age, regardless of the fact that she and the baby's father reportedly plan to marry.

I keep thinking too about the response of conservatives who laud the 17-year-old's choice to have the child rather than abort, while not really questioning the fact of sexual activity that seemingly runs counter to the family values that were seemingly so important to members of the Republican Party.

I keep thinking about the opposition to teaching sex education and use of contraceptives.

I keep thinking about how the conservatives are not so conservative when it comes to sex before marriage.

I keep thinking about the message that they are sending, which is this:

It is OK to have sex and get pregnant—just so long as you don't abort the baby.

Times do change.

Harris is chairman of the journalism department at Southern Connecticut State University in New Haven.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY
Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds around 10 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds around 10 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲86° ▼76°	▲85° ▼76°	▲85° ▼76°	▲85° ▼76°	▲84° ▼76°

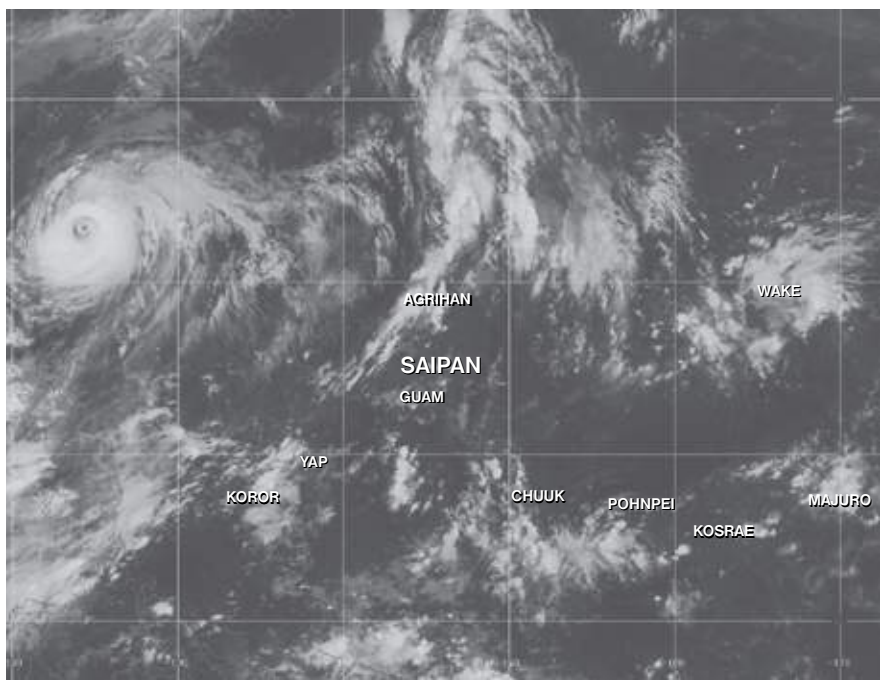
Micronesia

Guam and Rota	Cloudy	▲86	▼76
Palau	Mostly Cloudy	▲85	▼78
Yap	Mostly Cloudy	▲87	▼77
Chuuk	Thunderstorms	▲87	▼77
Pohnpei	Thunderstorms	▲87	▼73
Kosrae	Mostly Cloudy	▲88	▼75
Majuro	Cloudy	▲87	▼76

Around The Globe

Auckland	Cloudy	▲60	▼50
Beijing	Mostly Sunny	▲81	▼63
Hong Kong	Mostly Cloudy	▲91	▼80
Honolulu	Mostly Sunny	▲84	▼75
London	Cloudy	▲64	▼53
Los Angeles	Cloudy	▲82	▼64
Manila	Thunderstorms	▲84	▼77
Melbourne	Mostly Sunny	▲74	▼65
Miami	Cloudy	▲90	▼78
New York	Mostly Cloudy	▲77	▼66
Osaka	Mostly Cloudy	▲81	▼73
Paris	Cloudy	▲66	▼53
Pusan	Cloudy	▲83	▼68
Rome	Cloudy	▲83	▼60
Salem	Sunny	▲81	▼50
San Francisco	Cloudy	▲75	▼56
Seoul	Sunny	▲83	▼58
Tokyo	Partly Sunny	▲81	▼69
Washington, DC	Cloudy	▲81	▼69

Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 2008
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Upper-level divergence coupled with low-level convergent winds are producing scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms north of the Marianas within 50 miles of a line from 15N142E to 25N147E and between 20N and 25N from 150E to 156E. Also scattered showers are found near Koror and Yap between 6N and 11N from 130E to 138E. Scattered showers and a few thunderstorms are found between 16N and 22N from 160E to 170E. This area includes Wake Island. Scattered showers are occurring south of Chuuk between 2N and 6N from 149E to 157E. Trade-wind convergence is generating scattered showers and a few thunderstorms over the Marshall Islands within 100 miles of a line from 8N166E to 5N180.

Tides

Saipan Harbor		
12:17AM Today	Low Tide:	1.0 Feet
5:22AM Today	High Tide:	1.8 Feet
12:25PM Today	Low Tide:	0.0 Feet
7:05PM Today	High Tide:	1.8 Feet

Sunrise/Sunset

Today	6:05AM	6:20 PM
Sunday	6:05AM	6:19 PM
Monday	6:06AM	6:19 PM
Tuesday	6:06AM	6:18 PM
Wednesday	6:06AM	6:17 PM

Moonrise/Moonset

Today	4:49PM	3:53AM
Sunday	5:28PM	4:45AM
Monday	6:06PM	5:38AM
Tuesday	6:46PM	6:31AM
Wednesday	7:27PM	7:26AM

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- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
- Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
- For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.

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DEPARTURES

Saipan-Rota

CO 9313	8:30am	9:05am	3,4,7

Saipan-Guam

CO9317	4:00am	4:50am	Daily
CO9597	8:30am	9:20am	1,2,5,6
CO9313	8:30am	10:00am	3,4,7 via Rota
CO9601	12:30pm	1:20pm	Daily
CO9603	3:30pm	4:20pm	Daily
CO9605	6:30pm	7:20pm	Daily
CO9599	9:30pm	10:20pm	Daily

Saipan-Narita

NW 099	5:00am	7:30am	Daily
NW 078	8:55am	2:00pm	Daily
NW 075	4:55pm	7:25pm	Daily

Saipan-Osaka

NW 083	4:20pm	6:55pm	Daily

Saipan-Nagoya

NW 078	8:55am	11:35am	Daily

Saipan-Seoul

OZ 604	2:20am	6:00am	1
OZ 604	2:50am	6:30am	2,3,4,5,6,7
OZ 606	3:30pm	7:00pm	2,4,6,7

Saipan-Busan

OZ 608	3:50am	7:20am	1,5

Guam-Manila

CO 891	6:00am	10:30am	3 via Yap and Koror
CO 893	5:50pm	9:10pm	5 via Koror
CO 933	7:00pm	8:40pm	Daily
PR 111	6:00am	7:45am	1,2,4,6,7

Saipan-Guanzhou

CZ 3008	5:00am	8:00am	2,6

Guam-Rota

CO 9598	10:15am	10:45am	1,2,6

ARRIVALS

Rota-Saipan

CO 9598	11:10am	11:45am	1,2,6

Guam-Saipan

CO 9316	2:30am	3:20am	Daily
CO9596	7:00am	7:50am	Daily
CO9598	10:15am	11:45am	1,2,6 via Rota
CO9600	10:45am	11:35am	3,4,5,7
CO9602	2:00pm	2:50pm	Daily
CO9604	5:00pm	5:50pm	Daily
CO9606	8:00pm	8:50pm	Daily

Narita-Saipan

NW 076	10:15am	2:50pm	Daily
NW 077	6:25pm	1:30am+1	Daily
NW 100	8:45pm	1:20am+1	Daily

Osaka-Saipan

NW 084	10:30am	3:05pm	Daily

Nagoya-Saipan

NW 077	9:00pm	1:30am+1	Daily

Seoul-Saipan

OZ 605	9:00am	2:30pm	2,4,6,7
OZ 603	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7
OZ 603	8:10pm	1:40am+1	1,2,3,4,5,6

Busan-Saipan

OZ 607	9:30pm	2:50am+1	4,7

Manila-Guam

CO 892	11:45am	8:25pm+1	3 via Koror and Yap
CO 892	10:10pm	5:30am+1	5 via Koror
CO 934	10:55pm	4:30am+1	Daily
PR 110	10:20pm	4:00am+1	1,3,5,6,7

Guanzhou-Saipan

CZ 3007	8:00pm	4:00am+1	1,5

Rota-Guam

CO 9313	9:30am	10:00am	3,4,7

Editor's Note: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); CO: Continental; PR: Philippine Airlines; CZ: China Southern; CA: Air China; NW: Northwest; JO: Japan Airlines; OZ: Asiana; MU: China Eastern ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

FREEDOM AIR FLIGHT SCHEDULE

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
Guam-Rota			
FRE 100	7:00am	7:30am	Daily
Rota-Saipan			
FRE 100	7:50am	8:20am	Daily
Saipan-Rota			
FRE 200	9:00am	9:30am	Daily
Rota-Guam			
FRE 200	9:50am	10:15am	Daily
Guam-Rota			
FRE 300	4:00pm	4:30pm	Daily
Rota-Saipan			
FRE 300	4:50pm	5:25pm	Daily
Saipan-Rota			
FRE 400	6:00pm	6:30pm	Daily
Rota-Guam			
FRE 400	6:45pm	7:15pm	Daily
Saipan-Tinian			
FRE 101	6:45am	6:55am	Daily
FRE 103	7:30am	7:40am	Daily
FRE 105	8:00am	8:10am	Daily
FRE 107	8:40am	8:50am	Daily
FRE 109*	9:10am	9:20am	Daily
FRE 111*	10:45am	10:55am	Daily

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
FRE 113	11:40am	11:50am	Daily
FRE 115	1:00pm	1:10pm	Daily
FRE 117	2:30pm	2:40pm	Daily
FRE 119	4:00pm	4:10pm	Daily
FRE 121	4:40pm	4:50pm	Daily
FRE 123 *	5:40pm	5:50pm	Daily
FRE 125 *	6:00pm	6:10pm	Daily
Tinian-Saipan w/ connecting flights to Rota or Guam**			
FRE 102	7:05am	7:15am	Daily
FRE 104	7:50am	8:00am	Daily
FRE 106**	8:20am	8:30am	Daily
FRE 108**	9:00am	9:10am	Daily
FRE 110	10:00am	10:10am	Daily
FRE 112	11:05am	11:15am	Daily
FRE 114	12:00pm	12:10pm	Daily
FRE 116	1:30pm	1:40pm	Daily
FRE 118	2:50pm	3:00pm	Daily
FRE 120**	4:20pm	4:30pm	Daily
FRE 122**	5:00pm	5:10pm	Daily
FRE 124	6:05pm	6:15pm	Daily
FRE 126	6:20pm	6:30pm	Daily

Schedule of Religious Services

CATHOLIC

Mt. Carmel Cathedral
Sunday Mass: 6am, 9am, 11am and 6pm
Monday-Saturday: 6am
Wednesday: 6am and 6pm

Korean Center
Sunday: 10:30am
Wednesday: 10am
Thursday-Friday: 8pm
Saturday: 3pm and 7:30pm

Kristo Rai Parish
Sunday Mass: 6am, 8am and 9:30am
Monday- Saturday: 6am
Wednesday: 6am and 6pm
Saturday: 6am and 6pm

Nuestra Senora De Soledad Parish
Wednesday Mass: 6pm
First Friday Healing Mass: 6pm
Saturday Mass: 6pm
Sunday Masses: 7:30am & 9am

Saint Jude Parish
Sunday: 6am, 8am, 10am
Wednesday and Thursday: 6pm

San Antonio Parish
Sunday: 6am and 8am
Tuesday and Friday: 6pm

San Francisco de Borja-Rota
Sunday: 6am and 8am
Monday-Saturday: 6am
Wednesday: 6pm

San Isidro-Rota
Sunday: 5am and 10am
Monday-Wednesday: 7pm
Thursday-Saturday: 5am and 7pm

San Jose (Oleai) Parish
Sunday: 6am and 7:30am
Tuesday-Wednesday and Friday-Saturday: 6pm

San Roque Parish
Sunday: 9am
Wednesday: 6pm
Saturday: 10:30am

San Vicente Parish
Sunday: 6am, 9am and 6pm
Monday-Saturday: 6pm

Santa Remedios
Sunday: 7:30am
Tuesday: 6pm
Saturday: 10am-Baptism

Santa Soledad
Sunday: 7:30am

PROTESTANT

Born Again Christian (Upper Room Int'l Ministries), Saipan
Wednesday Prayer and Healing Night: 8-10:30pm
Saturday Tagalog Service: 8-10:30pm
Sunday English Service: 9:30-11am
Sunday School for Children: 10-11am
Sunday Filipino Service: 7-9pm

Calvary Baptist Church, Saipan
Sunday School: 9am
Sunday Morning Worship: 10am
Sunday Evening Worship: 6pm
Wednesday Prayer Service: 7pm

Chinese Christian Church of Saipan
Worship Services: Sunday, 10am and 7:30pm
Bible Study: Tuesday-Friday, 9:25pm

Cornerstone Christian Church, Saipan
Worship/Study Opportunities
Adult Sunday School: 9am
Youth Sunday School: 9am
English Worship Service Sunday: 10am
Sunday Service: 5:30pm
Worship/Fellowship Sunday: 9:30pm
Evangelism/Follow-up: Sunday/Monday: 1:30/7:30pm
Worship Team: Monday/Saturday-9pm;
Cell Groups Tuesday: 7:30pm
Mid-week Service: 7:30pm
Prayer Meeting Wednesday: 7:30pm
Leader's Bible Study Friday: 7:30 pm
Cornerstone School of Ministry Saturday: 7:30pm

Episcopal/Anglican Church on Saipan
St. Paul's Episcopal Church
Worship Service Sunday: Holy Communion 9:00am
Place: Vicarage, Chalan Laulau,
Call 235-0545 for directions

Grace Christian Assembly, Saipan
Worship Service: 9am
GBI Classes: 4-6pm
Prayer Meeting: Monday-Saturday: 6am
Sunday: 7am
Home Cell Bible Study: Wednesday-Friday: 7pm
Youth Service: Friday: 5:30pm

Iglesia Ni Cristo, Saipan
Wednesday: 7:45pm (Tagalog)
Thursday: 5:30am (English); 7:45 pm (English)
Saturday: 5:30am (Tagalog); 7:45pm (Tagalog)
Sunday: 6:45am (English)
Children Worship Service: Sunday, 9am (English)

Immanuel United Methodist Church Koblerville
Sunday Services
9:00 AM
Place of the church-next to Mt. Carmel Cathedral on Chalan Kanoa Dr. • Tel: 322-6158
Pastor JJ Matsumoto

Immanuel Methodist Church (Filipino Congregation)
Sunday: 7:00am-Choir Rehearsal
8:00am-Church Service (Tagalog)
9:15am-Sunday School
Wednesday: 6:30pm, home group
8:00pm-Prayer Meeting
Thursday: 7:30pm-Choir Practice (Church)
Saturday: 8:00pm-Choir Practice (Parsonage)

Jesus is Lord Church, Saipan
English Service: 9-11am, Sunday
Tagalog Service: 6-8pm, Sunday

Korean Presbyterian Church, Saipan
Sunday School: 8:20am
Sunday Adult: 10am
Sunday Adult: 11:30am
Sunday Evening: 7:30pm
Wednesday: 8pm

Life in the Son Christian Fellowship, Saipan
Sunday Worship Service: 10am–12noon
Tuesday: Leadership Institute 7pm-10pm
Wednesday: Corporate prayer 7pm-8pm
Last Friday of the month-prayer: 7pm-11pm
Friday: Youth on Fire: 7pm-9pm
Tel. No. 235-LIFE (5433)

Marianas Baptist Church, Saipan
English Worship Service: 9-10:30am
Evening Worship Service: 6-7pm
Children Sunday School: 9-10:30am
Tagalog Sunday School: 11am-12pm
English Sunday School: 11am-12pm
Korean Worship Service: 11am-12pm
Wednesday Prayer Meeting:
English, 7pm-8pm
Korean: 8:30pm-9:30pm

Missions Connection Ministry
Every Sunday Celebrations:
10am (English), 6pm (Tagalog)
Wednesday Bible Study: 7pm
Youth Impact Friday: 7pm
Saturday Prayer Meeting: 7pm

Northern Marianas Christian Church
Sunday Worship Service 10am Fina Sisu Housing FS#1 (Child care will be provided)
Friday Services @ 7pm Fina Sisu FS#1 for more info pls. contact Ryan 484-2620

Saipan Bible Fellowship Church
Sunday School: 9:30-10am
Divine Worship: 10am-11:30am
Evening Service: 7pm-8:30pm
Wednesday Prayer Meeting: 8pm-9pm

Saipan Christian Church
Sunday: 7:30am-10am
Sunday: 6:30 pm -9pm
Monday: 8 pm -10pm (Prayer Meeting)
Thursday: 8pm-10pm (Cell Groups)

Saipan Church of Christ
Sunday Bible Class: 9am
Sunday Worship: 10am
Sunday Worship English: 6pm
Sunday Worship Tagalog: 7pm
Wednesday Bible Study: 7:30pm

Saipan Community Church
(Sunday Services)
Palau Service: 7:30am-9am
English Service: 10am-11:30am
Chuukese Service: 1pm-2:30pm
Filipino Service: 5:00pm-7:00pm

Seventh-Day Adventist Church, Saipan
(Saturday Church Services)
Sabbath School Program: 9-10am
Lesson Study: 10-10:40am
Divine Service: 11-12pm
Visitation: 3-4pm
Adventist Youth Program: 4:30-5:30pm
Sundown Worship: 6-7pm

First Baptist Church
(Formerly Saipan Baptist Church)
Afetna St., San Antonio
Sunday
9am Sunday school
10am Regular worship
6pm worship
Wednesday
7pm worship
Everyone is warmly welcome to attend our worship services. Transportation is readily available to anyone who needs a ride to our church. For further information, please call Pastor David M. Mclure at 234-1939/235-7779.

Thy Word Ministries Saipan Faith Center
Phone 234-0209
New Christian Charismatic Church Service located in Chalan Paio, Beach Road in the Sablan building on the 2nd floor above Subway Sandwiches.
Senior Pastors: George & Gail Kamakahi
Asst. Pastors: Eric & Penny Sakaguchi
Service Times
Sunday 10:00am Worship Service
Sunday 7pm Discipleship Classes
Tuesday 10:00am Bible Studies
Tuesday 6:00pm Intercessory Prayer
Tuesday 7:00pm Music Practice
Wednesday 7:00pm Mid-Week Service
Saturday 10:00am Evangelism

Upper Room International Ministries
Sunday 5:30am-6:30am
Morning prayer
7am-9am English service
7am-9am Sunday school
10am-12noon English service, Koblerville
Wednesday 7pm-9pm Prayer meeting
Saturday 7pm-9pm Tagalog service
Venue: Jason Presbyterian Church
Gualo Rai, Saipan

Victory Chapel Christian Fellowship Church
Sunday School: 9:30am
Sunday AM Worship:10:30am
Sunday PM Worship:7:00am
Wed Worship: 7:30pm
Prayer 45 min. Prior to Service Times
Morning Prayer: 6-8am M-S

Flashback

A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

SEPTEMBER 13, 1999

Teno backs tighter entry requirements for alien workers
Saying it will comply with the guidelines of the U.S. State Department, Gov. Pedro P. Tenorio has thrown support behind a legislative proposal seeking to establish a Washington-approved list of hospitals and agencies that will screen alien workers entering the Northern Marianas. But he said he would still review the measure recently passed by the Legislature before signing it into law to determine whether its provisions promote his policy towards nonresident workers on the island.

MVA set to appeal Korean Air application for Seoul-Saipan flight
Marianas Visitors Authority board chairman Dave M. Sablan will meet with officials of Korea's Ministry of Construction and Transportation to appeal for the immediate approval of the application of Korean Air to begin its Seoul-Saipan service. Sablan said the trip set on Sept. 14-16, 1999 is a follow up on the earlier request made by Gov. Pedro P. Tenorio to Korean officials to boost traffic and revive the CNMI's ailing tourism economy.

Democratic Party bares Saipan lineup
Democratic Party candidates and supporters will march down to the Board of Elections office in Garapan on Wednesday to file the nominating petitions for the House of Representatives candidates for the Nov. 6 mid-term elections. "We're expecting a big number of supporters to join the march. We want to show the board that we support free choice," said Carlos S. Camacho, president of the Democratic Party. Camacho said he believes the Democrat lineup will sweep the elections and take over the House of Representatives which is currently dominated by Republicans.

SEPTEMBER 13, 2000

CUC urges MTC to justify policy
In response to a House inquiry, the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation has sought justification from the Micronesian Telecommunications Corporation for a recent change in its security deposit policy. Frank T. Flores, chair of the telecommunications committee of the CUC board, expressed dismay over MTC's failure to inform the government-owned utility corporation about the change.

FAA concurs with CPA in awarding deal to Telesource
The Federal Aviation Administration has agreed with the recommendation of the Commonwealth Ports Authority to award the contract for the construction of the new West Tinian International Airport to Telesource Corporation, which tendered the lowest project cost at $16.9 million for the 8,600-linear-foot runway. However, FAA-West Pacific Airports District acting manager Daniel S. Matsumoto said the project can only be authorized to proceed after the U.S. aviation agency has completed reviewing documents that are still yet to be submitted by CPA and Telesource Corp.

BOE backs initiative on special elections
The Board of Elections has backed a legislative initiative seeking to permit special polls in the CNMI separate from general elections to vote on proposals that will amend provisions of the Constitution. BOE Executive Director Gregorio C. Sablan said HLI 12-4 has "great merit" in light of several comments made by voters when initiatives were presented in the balloting during previous elections.

SEPTEMBER 13, 2001

'A despicable act of terrorism'
Roxanne Maratita was out with three friends last night. They had just entered a bar in the Garapan District around 12:30 a.m. and had just comfortably settled themselves when she took a look at the TV monitor over the bar. "Oh my God! What is happening?" she exclaimed. She said she could hardly believe her eyes as images of Tuesday's horrific drama unfolded before the TV screen.

CNMI placed on alert
The CNMI was placed on high alert as federal and local law enforcement agencies join forces to thwart possible terrorist attacks, while local officials convened to discuss contingency measures. All military and federal offices in the Pacific region, including the Federal Bureau of Investigation, are on alert, said Emergency Management Office Deputy Director Mark S. Pangelinan. Pangelinan said that law enforcement agencies are exerting best efforts to thwart any terrorist attempt in the CNMI.

Business

Lehman racing to find buyer

NEW YORK (AP)—With Lehman Brothers' shares signaling another steep drop on Friday, top executives are racing to put a sale of the beleaguered investment bank in place before it loses further market value and confidence.

Confidence has waned that Lehman Brothers Holdings Inc. will emerge from the financial crisis as an independent franchise, and the No. 4 U.S. investment bank is scouring Wall Street for a financial lifeline. Executives worked feverishly in the past 24 hours to find someone willing to buy all or part of the company, bankers and industry executives close to the situation said.

And the scrutiny is expected to grow more intense Friday, with investors placing bets that Lehman's stock will again nosedive. Shares fell 41 cents, or 9.7 percent, to $3.81 in after-hours trading; the stock skidded 41.8 percent to $4.22 during the regular session in New York, and is down more than 94 percent for the year.

That only puts more pressure on Lehman Chief Executive Richard Fuld, who joined the company in 1961 as a college student and now serves as Wall Street's longest-serving CEO. He has tenaciously resisted putting the company up for sale, but finally relented after a free-fall in its stock price and growing doubts about its survival, according to bankers and industry executives. They asked not to be named because they are not authorized to comment publicly.

Bank of America Corp., Japan's Nomura Securities, France's BNP Paribas, Deutsche Bank AG and Britain's Barclay's Plc have been mentioned this week as potential buyers. Goldman Sachs Group Inc., which also was being talked about as a potential buyer, is not interested, according to an industry official who ask not to be named.

Trade deficit surges, jobless claims continue to increase

WASHINGTON (AP)—The U.S. trade gap has hit a 16-month high, the job market is shrinking and exports—a rare item in the economy's plus column lately—may slow.

They are signs that the economy may be deteriorating further, analysts and business leaders said Thursday, which could intensify the political debate on how to fix the problems less than 60 days before Americans choose a new president.

The U.S. trade deficit soared in July, the Commerce Department said, as oil imports hit an all-time high. While exports increased, economists expect slowing economies in Europe and Asia will reduce export growth later this year.

The Labor Department also reported that new applications for unemployment benefits fell less than expected last week as the struggling economy continues to take a toll on workers.

And in a sign the job market could get worse, nearly one-third of the country's top executives expect to cut payrolls in the coming months, according to a survey released Thursday by the Business Roundtable, an association of large company CEOs.

Economists welcomed the continued strength in exports, which have been the primary driver of the U.S. economy in a year when the country has been battered by a prolonged slump in housing, rising unemployment and a severe credit crunch.

"There is no question that exports are driving our economy," said Commerce Secretary Carlos Gutierrez in an interview.

Oil rises in Asia on storm fears

SINGAPORE (AP)—Oil prices rose Friday in Asia to above $101 a barrel as Hurricane Ike swept up from the Gulf of Mexico, prompting companies along the Texas coast to shut down refining and drilling operations.

Light, sweet crude for October delivery rose 39 cents to $101.26 a barrel in electronic trading on the New York Mercantile Exchange midday in Singapore. The contract fell $1.71 overnight to settle at $100.87.

Exxon Mobil Corp., Valero Energy Corp., ConocoPhillips and Marathon Oil Co. have begun halting operations as Ike headed straight for the nation's biggest complex of refineries and petrochemical plants. Wholesale gasoline prices spiked 30 percent Thursday.

"You have some refineries shutting to prepare for hurricane damage," Tetsu Emori, a commodity markets fund manager with ASTMAZ Futures Co. in Tokyo. "That's triggered some buying, especially in oil products such as gasoline and heating oil."

Early Friday, the storm was centered about 370 miles southeast of Galveston, Texas, moving to the west-northwest at 12 mph. Top sustained winds were 100 mph.

The storm was expected to strike the Texas coast late Friday or early Saturday. Forecasters said the storm was likely to come ashore as a Category 3, with winds up to 130 mph. The upper Texas coast accounts for one-fifth of U.S. refining capacity.

Ike is huge, taking up nearly 40 percent of the Gulf of Mexico. The National Hurricane Center said tropical storm-force winds of at least 39 mph extended across more than 510 miles.

Nation

Solemn rituals mark seventh anniversary of 9-11

AP

Ina Castro, center, and her son Jonathan Rivera, right, are cry during a ceremony to commemorate the seventh anniversary of the Sept. 11 attacks Thursday, Sept. 11, 2008 in New York.

NEW YORK (AP)—Familiar rituals of grief marked the seventh anniversary of Sept. 11 on Thursday as thousands paid tribute at the attack sites, the presidential candidates laid flowers at ground zero and children mourned parents they can barely remember.

Sens. John McCain and Barack Obama called off their campaigns for the day, and in the late afternoon descended the long ramp into the pit of the World Trade Center site, bowing their heads and leaving the flowers in a reflecting pool.

At the Pentagon, 15,000 people turned out for the dedication of the first permanent memorial built at any of the three sites where hijacked planes crashed. It includes 184 benches that will glow at night, one for each victim there.

"Thanks to the brave men and women, and all those who work to keep us safe, there has not been another attack on our soil in 2,557 days," President Bush said at the outdoor dedication.

In New York, the crowd fell silent in a park just east of the trade center site at 8:46, 9:03, 9:59 and 10:29 a.m.—the times when two hijacked jets slammed into the buildings and the twin towers fell.

Alex, Aidan and Anna Salamone—now 13, 11 and 10 years old—wore old soccer jerseys belonging to their father, broker John Patrick Salamone, who was 37 when he was killed. They recalled playing in the yard with a toy wagon.

"He was strong. He was funny. He always made me laugh," Alex Salamone said. I wish I could remember more, but we were so young when he died."

"We love you, daddy," said Anna.

Still others chose to forgo the public observances altogether and mark the day in quieter, more private ways. Kai Thompson Hernandez toasted her late husband, Glenn Thompson, at a beach, with his favorite brand of beer.

"I try and celebrate his life rather than mark the place of his death," she said.

Family members of the trade center dead and students representing the more than 90 countries that lost citizens in the attack—Azerbaijan to Zambia to Vietnam—read the names of the 2,751 victims killed in New York.

Others descended seven stories below street level to pay respects where the towers once stood.

Texas prepares for a gigantic Hurricane Ike

HOUSTON (AP)—Cars and trucks streamed inland and chemical companies buttoned up their plants Thursday as a gigantic Hurricane Ike took aim at the heart of the U.S. refining industry and threatened to send a wall of water crashing toward Houston.

Nearly 1 million people along the Texas coast were ordered to evacuate ahead of the storm, which was expected to strike late Friday or early Saturday. But in a calculated risk aimed at avoiding total gridlock, authorities told most people in the nation's fourth-largest city to just hunker down.

Ike was steering almost directly for Houston, where gleaming skyscrapers, the nation's biggest refinery and NASA's Johnson Space Center lie in areas vulnerable to wind and floodwaters. Forecasters said the storm was likely to come ashore as a Category 3, with winds up to 130 mph.

But the storm was so big, it could inflict a punishing blow even in those areas that do not get a direct hit. Forecasters warned that because of Ike's size and the state's shallow coastal waters, it could produce a surge, or wall of water, 20 feet high, and waves of perhaps 50 feet. It could also dump 10 inches or more of rain.

"It's a big storm," Texas Gov. Rick Perry said. "I cannot overemphasize the danger that is facing us. It's going to do some substantial damage. It's going to knock out power. It's going to cause massive flooding."

Palin tries to defend qualifications in interview

AMERICA VOTES

FORT WAINWRIGHT, Alaska (AP)—John McCain running mate Sarah Palin sought Thursday to defend her qualifications but struggled with foreign policy, unable to describe President Bush's doctrine of pre-emptive strikes against threatening nations and acknowledging she's never met a foreign head of state.

The Republican vice presidential nominee told Charles Gibson of ABC News in her first televised interview since being named to the GOP ticket that "I'm ready" to be president if called upon. However, she sidestepped on whether she had the national security credentials needed to be commander in chief.

Palin, 44, has been Alaska's governor for less than two years and before that was a small-town mayor. She was McCain's surprise selection for the No. 2 slot on the ticket, raising questions about her readiness to serve in the White House, particularly during wartime.

McCain has defended her qualifications, citing her command of the Alaska National Guard and Alaska's proximity to Russia.

Asked whether those were sufficient credentials, Palin said: "It is about reform of government and it's about putting government back on the side of the people, and that has much to do with foreign policy and national security issues." She said she brings expertise in making the country energy independent as a former chairman of the Alaska Oil and Gas Conservation Commission.

McCain, Obama discuss views on public service

AMERICA VOTES

NEW YORK (AP)—Republican John McCain declined to disavow Thursday the tough criticism by his campaign of his Democratic opponent's experience as a community organizer, saying politics is "tough business" even as he praised Barack Obama's service.

At a live, televised forum on public service timed to coincide with the anniversary of the 2001 terrorist attacks, McCain said he respected Obama's decision after law school to forgo a lucrative career path and become a community organizer in downtrodden Chicago.

"I respect people who serve their community," McCain said. "And Senator Obama's record there is outstanding."

He also paid tribute to Obama for inspiring "millions of Americans who otherwise wouldn't have been involved in the political process" (while giving himself credit for attracting voter turnout with "my record of service and my vision for the future.")

At the same time, McCain said the negativity that has infused the presidential race - on hiatus for one day in honor of the Sept. 11 anniversary - could have been avoided had Obama accepted his proposal for the two to tour the country together doing town-hall meetings, a format in which McCain shines best.

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

Loan Specialist I

Position: Loan Specialist I
Opening Date: September 9, 2008
Closing Date: October 8, 2008

Salary: PL 26/01 to PL 26/05 ($18,584.42 to $22,576.96 per annum)
(The starting salary will commensurate with applicant's education and experience)

Job Location: Mortgage Credit Division, NMHC Central Office in Garapan, Saipan

Detailed job description, qualification requirements and other information may be picked up, together with NMHC's employment application form, during regular working hours at the NMHC Central Office in Garapan, Saipan, during regular working hours, 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, except CNMI holidays.

All applicants must complete and submit the NMHC Employment Application Form together with required documents that are listed in the Employment Application Package. Failure to provide the required documents will result in automatic disqualification. NMHC and all its properties are drug-free zones; therefore, selected applicant will be subject to pre-employment drug screening.

Applicants are requested to submit their original application and supporting documents to the NMHC Central Office in Garapan, Saipan, no later than 4:30 p.m., Tuesday, September 30, 2008, **OR MAILED AND POSTMARKED** no later than October 8, 2008, to the Corporate Director, Northern Marianas Housing Corporation, P. O. Box 500514, Saipan, MP 96950.

It is the policy of the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC) that the merit system will be applied and administered according to the principle of equal opportunity for all citizens and nationals as defined by its personnel regulations and the Northern Marianas Commonwealth Constitution regardless of age, race, sex, religion, political affiliation or belief, marital status, disability or place of origin.

For inquiries, please contact Edith C. Fejeran, Office Manager at (670) 234-9447/7689 or by email to ecfejeran@nmhc.gov.mp NMHC is a fair housing agency and an equal opportunity provider, lender and employer.

/s/
JOSHUA T. SASAMOTO
Corporate Director

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION
Tel. (670) 234-6866, 234-9447, 234-7689, 234-7670 • Fax. (670) 234-9021
Email: nmhc@nmhc.gov.mp • Website: http://www.nmhc.gov.mp

INVITATION TO BID
NMHC IFB08-014

This ad is paid for with HUD funds.

SUBMISSION/OPENING DATE: October 8, 2008 TIME: 10:00 A.M.

"GROUNDS MAINTENANCE FOR NMHC'S PROPERTIES (LISTING A THROUGH D) IN SAIPAN"

Copies of the Project Package may be picked up at the NMHC Central Office in Garapan, Saipan, beginning Monday, September 8, 2008, during regular working hours (7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.) Monday thru Friday except CNMI holidays.

Bidding procedures shall be in compliance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations, however, PL 15-95 as amended by PL15-118, "Local Business Preference" is not available to local bidders in this procurement because its use is prohibited by the Federal law granting the funding for this project.

A pre-bid conference will be held and specifics regarding the scheduled conference are provided in the Project Package.

NMHC hereby notifies bidders that it will affirmatively insure that in any contract entered into pursuant to this advertisement, women and small business enterprises will be afforded full opportunity to submit bids and will not be discriminated against on grounds of race, color, national origin, political affiliation, creed, sex, religion, age, familial status, and disability status.

/s/ **MERCED (MARCIE) M. TOMOKANE**
Vice Chairwoman of the Board

/s/ **HERMAN S. SABLAN**
Director, Procurement & Supply

"NMHC is a fair housing agency and an equal opportunity provider, lender and employer"

Northern Marianas College
Procurement & Property Management Office

INVITATION FOR BID
NMC No.: IFB 08-005
NMC Rota Instruction Site – Janitorial and Security Services

The Northern Marianas College Rota Instructional Site is soliciting for sealed competitive bids for Janitorial, and Security Services. A Bidder does not have to bid for both services. In order to be considered for this transaction, all persons, firms or corporations responding to this request must provide information requested in the specifications and scope of work. **Any bid received that does not provide the requested information may be rejected.** Bids rejected will not be returned to the owner, but the owner will be notified.

Due Date/Time: Friday, Tuesday, September 23rd, 2008 4:00 p.m.

Specifications and Scope of Work may be picked up at the NMC Procurement Office, Bldg. L, 2nd Floor, As Terlaje Campus, Saipan or the NMC Tinian Instructional Site Administrative Offices. Monday to Friday between the hours of 8: 30-11:30 a.m. and 1:00-4:30 p.m.

Bid Packages are due September 23rd, 2008 at 4:00 p.m. Saipan time at the Northern Marianas College, As Terlaje Campus, Procurement Office, Bldg. L, 2nd Floor, Saipan or the NMC Rota Instructional Site Administrative Office. Bidding procedures shall be in compliance with NMC Procurement Regulations, and in accordance with Public Laws 15-95 and as further amended by Public Law 15-118, **"Local Business Preference"** is **available to local bidders** in this procurement. Bidders must also comply with Public Law 15-108 "The Commonwealth Employment Act of 2007". For bidders located **outside the CNMI**: You may request a copy of the Invitation for Bid via fax (670) 235-7601 or e-mail to Duane R.T. Sablan (duanes@nmcnet.edu).

All bidders are hereby notified that the Northern Marianas College and CNMI Government will affirmatively insure that in any contract entered into pursuant to this advertisement, women and small business enterprises will be afforded full opportunity to submit proposals and will not be discriminated against on grounds of race, color, national origin, political affiliation, creed, sex, religion, age, familial status, and disability status.

This solicitation does not constitute an offer and does not obligate the College in any way. The NMC reserves the right to reject any and/or all proposals for any reason and waive any defect in said proposals, or cancel in part or its entirety this RFP, if it deems, in its sole discretion, it is in the best interest of the College. All costs incurred by the bidder to prepare a response this solicitation and subsequent inquiries shall be borne by the bidder. All submittals shall become the property of NMC and will not be returned.

Approved by the following:

/s/ Duane R.T. Sablan
NMC, Acting Procurement Officer

/s/ Dwayne Maratita
Acting, Program Coordinator
Rota Instructional Site

Asia/World

Mbeki says Zimbabwe power-sharing deal struck

HARARE, Zimbabwe (AP)—President Robert Mugabe agreed to share power with the opposition Thursday after more than two decades as Zimbabwe's unchallenged leader, South Africa's president announced.

South African leader Thabo Mbeki, who mediated at the negotiation, did not immediately offer details, but said the agreement would be signed and made public Monday.

"I am absolutely certain that the leadership of Zimbabwe is committed to implementing these agreements," Mbeki said at a news conference late Thursday.

Opposition leader Morgan Tsvangirai also told reporters the parties "have got a deal." There was no immediate statement from the 84-year-old Mugabe.

There was no indication of how they would share power.

Tsvangirai had argued that as top vote-getter in the March presidential election he should be head of government and preside at Cabinet meetings, relegating Mugabe to a ceremonial position. Mugabe showed little willingness to relinquish much power.

Mbeki had been in Zimbabwe since Monday trying to resolve that impasse. For a year, he sought to bring Mugabe and Tsvangirai closer together, insisting that despite accusations he was biased in favor of Mugabe his policy of refusing to confront or publicly criticize either party was the best approach.

"The agreement has once more underlined our often stated view that only the people of Zimbabwe, acting with the support of the international community, can author their own destiny," Mbeki's government said in a statement following his announcement.

Mbeki

Others, including African leaders traditionally reluctant to criticize one of their own, had been increasingly impatient with Mugabe, who has been accused of trampling on Zimbabwean's political rights and ruining the economy of what had once been the region's breadbasket. Neighboring countries coping with Zimbabwean refugees were among the sharpest critics.

Tsvangirai's party won the most votes in legislative and presidential elections in March, but he did not win enough to avoid a runoff against Mugabe. An onslaught of state-sponsored violence against Tsvangirai's supporters forced him to drop out of the presidential runoff.

Mugabe kept Tsvangirai's name on the ballot and was declared the overwhelming winner of a runoff that was widely denounced as a sham.

Citing the March results, Tsvangirai says he should be head of government and preside over Cabinet meetings, while Mugabe should be relegated to a ceremonial position. Mugabe had shown little willingness to relinquish much power.

Thailand's Samak isolated as friends desert him

BANGKOK, Thailand (AP)—Political allies of Thailand's ousted prime minister deserted him Friday in his bid to return to power in a parliamentary vote, leaving him isolated following his removal by a court for violating conflict-of-interest rules.

A Parliament vote to elect a replacement for Samak Sundaravej was postponed until Wednesday for lack of quorum when all five partners in the ruling coalition boycotted the session. About 70 lawmakers of his People's Power Party also said before the session they would vote against him.

"Even though our partners boycotted the meeting today, they boycotted the person not the principle of staying together to form a new coalition," said acting Prime Minister Somchai Wongsawat.

He said the PPP would meet later Friday to "find a better candidate who will be acceptable to our coalition partners and our party members."

Samak was booted out Tuesday by a Constitutional Court ruling for violating a conflict-of-interest law by hosting two television cooking shows while in office.

The decision by the PPP to re-nominate him was opposed by his five coalition partners and the opposition Democrat Party, all of whom boycotted Friday's session in the 480-member House of Representatives.

Asia/World Briefs

Venezuela's Chavez says US ambassador must leave

CARACAS, Venezuela (AP)—President Hugo Chavez ordered the U.S. ambassador to leave Venezuela in 72 hours and said he was immediately withdrawing his ambassador from Washington. Chavez said Thursday night that U.S. Ambassador Patrick Duddy is no longer welcome, just as his close ally Bolivia expelled the American envoy from La Paz a day earlier. "They're trying to do here what they were doing in Bolivia," Chavez said, accusing Washington of trying to oust him. "That's enough ... from you, Yankees," he said during a televised rally, using an expletive. The socialist leader said Venezuela's ambassador to Washington, Bernardo Alvarez, would return to the U.S. "when there's a new government in the United States."

Report: NKorea's Kim recovering from brain surgery

SEOUL, South Korea (AP)—North Korea's Kim Jong Il had brain surgery after a stroke last month and could have partial paralysis on one side, media reports said Thursday, after the South Korean government said the communist leader remained in control of his country. Foreign doctors, possibly from China and France, performed the operation after Kim, 66, collapsed about Aug. 15, the newspapers Dong-a Ilbo and JoongAng Ilbo reported, citing unidentified government officials. Kim's condition has improved and he is not suffering from slurred speech, a disability often associated with a stroke, the reports said. If Kim were incapacitated, it could have serious implications for international negotiations on North Korea's nuclear disarmament.

Democracy Considered
A We the People Grant Project from the NMI Council for the Humanities
Join a panel of political, business and community leaders to discuss
Federalization: An Agent of Preserving or Accelerating Demise of Local Culture?
September 16, 2008
7:00pm-8:30pm
American Memorial Park Auditorium
Free Admission
Participate by attending event, calling in, or send emails to taroleafgroup@gmail.com.
The discussion is not a debate about the merits of federalization, but rather an insightful discussion about the impact — direct or indirect—that federalization will have on local culture.
Common wisdom holds that globalization is inevitable as a result of (and convergence of) the widespread use of the internet, the ease of travel restrictions around the world, the advancement of technology, an economy that commands an international supply chain, and other tools—or agents—of this great international amalgamation.
The Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands is certainly not immune to what is happening in the global arena. Residents need only to look at the meteoric rise of the price of gasoline to see how events in other parts of the world are impacting life here.
Given all these, what of the local culture? As the CNMI becomes more a part of a larger structure, how will local culture be impacted? And more specifically, given the agents of change mentioned above, what role would the recent federalization of labor and immigration play?
As the CNMI becomes more a part of the bigger U.S. family, could federalization be the saving grace of local culture? Or, could it unlock the final floodgate that would accelerate the demise of the local culture as we know it?
For more information, please email at taroleafgroup@gmail.com.
taro leaf
"From Many, One: Exploring Democracy in a Multi-Cultural Commonwealth."
"This project was supported by funding received from the National Endowment for the Humanities and awarded by the Northern Mariana Islands Council for the Humanities. Any views, findings, conclusions or recommendations expressed in this project are those of the contributors and do not necessarily represent those of the National Endowment for the Humanities or the Northern Mariana Islands Council for the Humanities."

Maharlika – PinoyNews

RP launches training-for-work scholarship program

The Philippine government is implementing a Training for Work Scholarship Program, which is open to fresh high school graduates, those employed but ready for a career change, underemployed, or unemployed with or without experience, and willing to undergo training.

The program hopes to provide skills and competencies to job seekers, 18-55 years of age, through appropriate training programs that are directly connected to existing jobs for immediate employment and to empower private education and training institutions to offer relevant training programs that meet job requirements.

The program is a joint project of government agencies, spearheaded by Technical Education and Skills Development, Department of Labor and Employment, and Office of the Presidential Adviser for Job Creation, private sector organizations, industry associations, labor unions and public and private education and training institutions, according to Consul General Wilfredo DL. Maximo.

Maximo

Occupations covered include call center agents, medical and legal transcriptionists, animator, software developer, consumer electronics technician, welder, butcher, heavy equipment operator, aircraft maintenance technician, barista, cook, caregiver, biomedical equipment technician, massage therapist, household service worker, etc.

If applicants, for example, are interested in a Business Process Outsourcing job, they can apply in any BPO company. In areas where there are no BPO companies, applicants are advised to register at the nearest DOLE or TESDA Regional/Provincial Office using the Computerized National Manpower Registry System form. Interested applicants can also log on to the TESDA website www.tesda.gov.ph or PHIL-Jobnet www.phil-job.net.

Maximo said that after screening and if found qualified, a scholarship certificate will be issued to the applicant through the Business Processing Association of the Philippines and its member associations—Contact Center Association of the Philippines, Medical Transcription Industry Association of the Philippines, Inc.,Animation Council of the Philippines, Inc., and Philippine Software Industry Association; other sectoral organizations, industry associations and social and civic organization where TESDA have existing MOA; or the nearest TESDA Regional/Provincial/ District Offices.

The TWSP was one of the Philippine government's initiatives shared by CFO Secretary Dante A. Ang during his dialogue with the Filipino community while he was here on Saipan last month.

Maximo is encouraging OFWs here in the CNMI to relay this opportunity to their dependents in the Philippines. OFWs who are not returning to work in the CNMI can also avail of TWSP to upgrade their skills and boost their employability.

Those interested can contact TESDA in Manila or its regional or provincial office nearest their place. ***(PR)***

RP's peso weakens to 47.095:$1

TYPHOON SINLAKU AP

A man rides his bicycle along a flooded street in Manila, Philippines. Typhoon Sinlaku moved close to the eastern coast of Taiwan on Friday, although the current forecast shows only slim odds of the typhoon making landfall over the country. Sinlaku also has the potential to strengthen into a super typhoon as it passes near Taiwan. Whether or not the storm makes landfall, the northern Philippines and Taiwan still saw heavy rain from the outer bands of the storm, resulting in extensive flooding.

By DORIS DUMLAO
PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

MANILA, Philippines—The peso Thursday slipped to 47.095 to the dollar for the first time in a year, badly affected by a broadly rising greenback and escalating risk aversion among global investors, currency dealers said.

The peso weakened by 0.145 from Wednesday's close of 46.95 to the dollar. Moderate intervention from the central bank tempered the peso's depreciation, dealers said.

Most other currencies across Asia likewise tumbled Thursday, led by the South Korean won and Indian rupee. Investors' appetite on currencies, stocks and bonds from emerging markets were dampened by jitters over larger-than-expected losses incurred by US investment banking giant Lehman Brothers.

Currency traders said the central bank's presence in the market was felt particularly when dollars were sold near the day's low, indicating support for the peso.

But one dealer said the central bank's intervention was "not too aggressive" and perhaps the central bank was "conserving its foreign reserves."

The main factor for the weakening of the peso was the strengthening of the dollar, a banker said.

"Overall, it's still the dollar's strength that is weakening the local currency," Chinatrust Philippines treasurer Roland Avante said, noting the US dollar sustained its climb against the euro and the British pound.

Avante said offshore investors showed bullishness on the dollar at the expense of the peso, citing that on the non-deliverable forward market Thursday the one-month peso-dollar rate was being quoted at P47.78 to $1.00.

Avante said the market would likely test 47.30-47.35 to the dollar in the next few days.

"For the moment, it's still an uptrend for the dollar, but even the US may try to temper the appreciation," he said. "Even the market may turn cautious [on accumulating dollars] because a deep correction may be possible."

The volume of trading thinned to $607 million from Wednesday's $848.5 million.

The peso is at its lowest level against the dollar since touching 47.12 exactly 12 months ago.

"The market must consolidate before going higher," Export Bank treasurer Benjo Arcinas said. "I think the market is long on US dollars."

Somali pirates release two ships carrying 26 Filipinos

NAIROBI (AFP)—Somali pirates have released a German-operated ship and a Japanese tanker seized last month with 26 Filipinos and six other crewmembers on board, a Kenyan maritime organization said Thursday.

The German's Antigua and Barbuda-flagged MV BBC Trinidad and Japanese MT Irene were seized on August 21 off the unpatrolled Somali coast, said Andrew Mwangura of the Kenyan branch of the Seafarers' Assistance Programme.

"As of now, we have confirmed that the two ships have been released by the pirates," he told Agence France-Presse from the port town of Mombasa.

The MV BBC Trinidad, which was held in the northeastern Somali fishing village of Eyl, has a 13-member crew: a Slovenian captain, 10 Filipinos and two Russians.

"The pirates had asked for a ransom but I do not yet know whether it was paid or not," Mwangura added.

Mwangura said the MT Irene, which had 16 Filipinos and three Croatians, was freed from the same village a day after a group of Japan arrived in Nairobi to boost efforts to release the tanker.

"We have reports that they brought ransom and were coordinating its payment," he added.

Sources close to the pirates in the northern Somali breakaway state of Puntland told AFP that a ransom of 1.5 million dollars was paid but the information could not immediately be confirmed.

According to Somali officials and several maritime organizations, Somali pirates are currently holding several foreign ships hostage off the coast of the troubled Horn of Africa country.

Maritime experts say many attacks go unreported along Somalia's 3,700 kilometers (2,300 miles) of largely unpatrolled coast infested by pirates, who operate high-powered speedboats and carry heavy machine guns and rocket launchers.

CREAM hosts mock delegate polls today

The Coalition for Recognition, Equality and Advancement of American Ethnic Minorities, CREAM, will conduct a mock election for the CNMI delegate today, Sept. 13, 2008.

Ballot specimens are now being distributed to qualified U.S. ethnic minority citizens to vote and choose their favored candidate.

The coalition group will be stationed at the Kilili pavilion this afternoon, 3pm to 6pm, to receive filled-up ballots from its members and other ethnic nationalities who would like to participate in this voting exercise.

As agreed after their deliberation in the meeting on Sept. 6, 2008, at the Buniag (Alanars) Compound, only the top four vote getters will be invited by CREAM to their planned forum to listen, understand, compare, digest, approve and adopt their platforms and program of representation in the U.S. Congress that will benefit the citizenry of the Commonwealth, including the U.S. ethnic minorities and long-time resident contract workers.

For more details and request for ballots, call the following: Gus Loste, 2353027; Emi Pamintuan, 4830727; Pastor Gagarin, 2877478; Ed Caranzo, 2878476 and Wlie Wagan, 2874474 or 288-4113. ***(PR)***

$20,000 Asean song-writing contest on

By VERONICA UY
INQUIRER.NET

MANILA, Philippines—Thailand, the current head of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations, is holding a regional competition to select a composition as the Asean Anthem for the 14th Asean Summit in December 2008.

The contest is open to all citizens of any Asean member-state, whose Asean national secretariat will receive all entries. The winning composition will receive $20,000.

Aiming to create a sense of Asean identity, community, closeness, and belonging-ness among the region's half a billion population, the song must follow these criteria: it must be original, in English, not more than one minute in length, and should reflect the dignity of a regional song, the region's "cooperation, solidarity, and whenever possible, Asean's diverse culture and religion."

Entries should be sent with score and sheet music (note and lyrics) with voice and musical instruments (preferably piano) recording submitted on CD.

Deadline of submission of entries is on Sept. 20.

Interested participants shall submit their compositions to the Philippine National Secretariat of Asean with the following contact details: Office of Asean Affairs, Department of Foreign Affairs, 8th floor, DFA Building, 2330 Roxas Boulevard, Pasay City, with telephone numbers 834-4152/3164, and fax number 832-1667.

Thailand announced the contest after Asean leaders signed the Asean Charter on November 20 last year in Singapore; the Charter stipulates for an Asean Anthem.

Asean groups together Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, and Vietnam.

Manna for Velarde and Villar realty firms

By Gil C. Cabacungan Jr.
PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

MANILA, Philippines—The C-5 road extension project has proved to be real manna not from heaven but from the government for Bro. Mike Velarde, the leader of the El Shaddai charismatic group, whose Amvel Land Corp. reportedly obtained a windfall from selling the right-of-way over its Parañaque property for the road improvement project.

Several employees from Amvel's head office and sales department confirmed to the Philippine Daily Inquirer that part of the Amvel property was indeed acquired by the government for the construction of the 2.1-km C-5 road extension between Multinational Village and the SM Sucat mall.

The employees could not confirm, however, how much right-of-way compensation was paid to Amvel whose Amvel Mansions, a medium-rise condominium on a 13-hectare development in the area, received an immediate financial boost from the state-funded road project.

The ongoing C-5 road extension project has been allotted P100 million for right-of-way acquisitions and P400 million for civil works which were "fully funded under special release."

Amvel is already facing a suit in the Supreme Court involving another right-of-way compensation for an earlier road project, the C-5 Link Expressway and the R-1 Extension Expressway. Lawyer Ernesto Francisco Jr. filed the plunder suit against Velarde for having illegally obtained P1.2 billion in the sale of its Parañaque property for the road project.

Francisco went to the high court in 2002 after the charges that he filed against Velarde and deposed President Joseph Estrada was dismissed by the Office of the Ombudsman in December 2001.

Contacted for comment, Velarde confirmed that his property development company Amvel stood to gain compensation from the C-5 road extension project but stressed that it has so far not received any payment because of a price dispute.

"Part of my property was traversed by the extension project so naturally we have to be compensated for our land," Velarde said.

He said Amvel was contesting the price that the government offered to pay for several thousand square meters of his Parañaque property that were expropriated for the extension project.

"We are contesting it in court because the price they gave was way, way below the market value," he said.

Velarde denied that he has benefited from the road project because of his political influence.

"There are several property owners along that project, mine is just a small part. And this project is real, it is existing. It will benefit Metro Manila, including Parañaque and Las Piñas, and Cavite because it will decongest traffic along Sucat and airport roads," he said.

The C-5 road extension project is the same project that obtained a double allocation of P200 million in the 2008 budget, a brewing controversy that has snared Senate President Manuel Villar whose property developments may or may not have benefited from the project.

Sen. Panfilo Lacson has claimed that the 2.1-km C-5 road extension project, part of a 42-km road improvement to connect the Coastal Road in Parañaque to the Northern Luzon Expressway, was twice allocated P200 million in the 2008 budget where it was listed as two projects.

It now appears that Villar's Brittany Corp. may have received similar right-of-way manna from the government as Velarde's Amvel.

Francisco claimed the other day that Brittany may have been paid P92.3 million in right-of-way compensation by the Toll Regulatory Board eight years ago for 6,155 square meters of its property that was acquired for the same C-5 road extension project.

Francisco, who is a lawyer for opposition Sen. Maria Ana Consuelo "Jamby" Madrigal, said his claim was based on a copy of a Deed of Absolute Sale between Brittany president Jerry M. Navarette and TRB executive director Mariano E. Benedicto II.

Brittany spokesperson Nalen Galang Thursday denied that the company had received "P92 million or any other amount from the Toll Regulatory Board or any other state body affected by the C-5 extension project."

In a statement, Galang said that in 1999, the TRB had offered to purchase a portion of Brittany's property in Parañaque.

Philippines landslide death toll rises to 24

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—Officials say they have ordered residents to permanently abandon a southern Philippines village ravaged by landslides that killed at least 24.

Rescuers used picks and shovels in searching for at least two more missing in the muddy rubble of the gold mining village of Masara in southern Compostela Valley province's Maco township.

The village, with a population of 3,000, has been declared "no man's land" because it is landslide-prone.

Maco Mayor Voltaire Rimando said Thursday villagers were ordered to abandon Masara. He says evacuation began Wednesday, but some residents have asked for more time to leave.

He says more than 1,000 people have been moved to temporary shelters in a nearby village while officials search for a permanent relocation site.

No longer 'Manila's Finest'

MANILA, Philippines—The Manila Police District (MPD) has topped the list among district police stations in Metro Manila with the most number of administrative cases this year, National Capital Region Police Office director Geary Barias has said.

Of the 142 policemen facing administrative charges since January, 42 of them belong to the MPD, Barias said.

Charges range from negligence of duty to robbery-extortion, he said.

The Southern Police District ranked second with 40 policemen facing administrative charges; Quezon City Police District (QCPD) with 33 policemen, Eastern Police District (EPD) with 14, and Northern Police District (NPD) with seven policemen facing charges.

Barias said that out of the 142 policemen facing charges, 22 of these have ranks of Police Superintendent, a rank equal to that of a Lieutenant Colonel in the military.

Barias refused to name the 22 pending results of the investigation.

"Let it be known publicly that we do not tolerate misfits and scalawags in the Philippine National Police. We are bringing these records out so that hopefully the public may be encouraged to help us identify further who are the undesirable policemen in their communities so that we can institute proper action against them," he added.

Meanwhile, eight policemen have been dismissed from the service because of administrative cases, including Police Superintendent Jose Dayco from SPD who was charged with robbery extortion. ***(INQUIRER.net)***

Family massacred in Bulacan

MANILA, Philippines—A family of four was reportedly massacred inside their home in a subdivision in San Jose Del Monte, Bulacan, police said.

In a radio report, the victims were identified as Teofilo Mojica, 60, Florida Mojica, 52, Mary Grace Mojica, 19, and a certain Nona, 24, a relative of the Mojicas.

All four were ridden with bullets, the report said.

The Mojicas are residents of Block 3, Lot 5, Phase 5, Vital St., Pleasant Hills Subdivision, Barangay (village) San Manuel, said Senior Police Officer 4 Rodolfo Altamiya, of the San Jose Del Monte Bulacan police.

The radio report said the incident occurred at around 3 a.m. Friday.

Police are eyeing the possibility that the victims knew the suspects because there were no signs of forced entry and no valuables were missing. ***(INQUIRER.net)***

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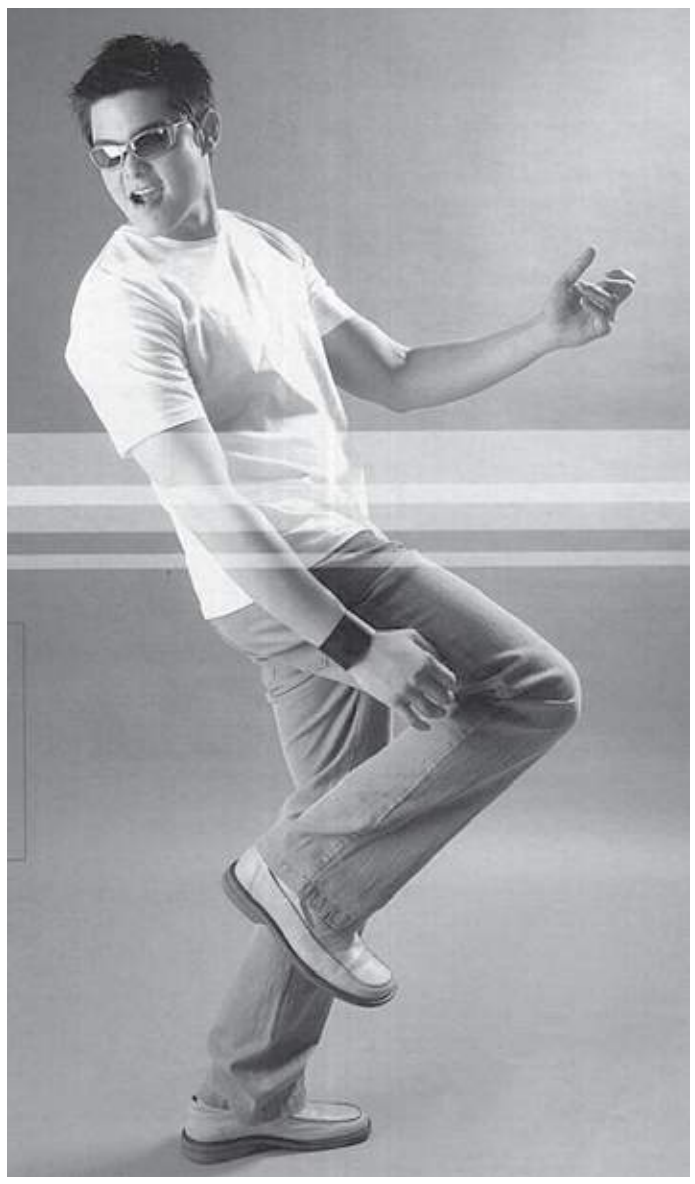
Maharlika – PinoyStyle

My sexy boyfriend

By MARINEL CRUZ
PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER


Dingdong Dantes

MANILA, Philippines—Her boyfriend, actor-director Dingdong Dantes, was recently named one of the sexiest men in the world. If she had her way, singer-actress Karylle would keep their relationship private, but that's like asking for the moon at this time.

In this interview with Inquirer Entertainment in her San Juan home, Karylle, 27, was evidently more reserved when answering questions about "Dong" than about her career.

Dong previously told Inquirer Entertainment that before you both got very busy, you had a lot of "bonding time."

Yes. We went on a lot of trips. There's little time for that now. We just go jogging or nature tripping. Last week, we went to Tagaytay. In the future, we'd like to go to the Bahamas.

These trips were just with Dong, no driver, no alalay?

Kami lang kasi ang kasya sa car n'ya (a two-door Corvette). He likes to drive. With my schedule for "West Side Story" (she alternates with Joanna Ampil as Maria in an ongoing production) I can hardly go anywhere.

How long have you been together?

We've been together for three years. We met in Ateneo, where we both studied. I had a lot of suitors at the time, but I wasn't thinking of getting into a relationship. With the previous one, I felt na masyado akong nagmadali. I wasn't even sure if Dong was courting me [at first]. And then, we just realized we liked each other—kami na.

What do you love most about him?

I tease him, "Wow, sexiest man!" Nahihiya s'ya. He even asked me, "Tama bang sinabi ko na buchukoy ako?" (Inquirer, Aug. 24). I said, "Yes, para magkaro'n ng hope ang ibang mga buchukoy sa mundo."

Is there anything you don't like about him, a pet peeve?

Marami! I hate it when he makes noise by tapping his hands on the table. He also bites his nails. On the other hand, he doesn't like my being indecisive about some things, like where to eat.

We imagine there are girls who'd throw themselves at Dong. Don't you feel just a bit insecure sometimes?

'Di naman. There's one time when he picked me up from rehearsals and all the working girls in the building stepped out to see him. One of them, hindi siguro nakatiis, screamed, "Ang gwapo-gwapo mo!" That was really funny. They usually just giggle.

Do you watch "Dyesebel," where Dong gets to lock lips with Marian Rivera?

Yes. He tells me when it's okay to watch.

Is he demonstrative?

He does ... little things ... like waiting for me when I slow down while jogging. He cooks for me, too.

What's the best present you ever got from Dong?

We pride ourselves in giving great presents. This year, he beat me. First with a Manila Bay cruise on my birthday, then from his last trip to the US, he gave me a "Best Girlfriend" award, and a Tiffany bracelet with an Eiffel Tower and NY taxi charms.

What was your first impression of Dong?

Very macho, but he's actually very sweet.

What interests do you share with him?

A love for old music. We also eat out a lot.

Your biggest fight ever?

I'd feel weird answering that alone.

Dollywood: Kris snaps at Charlene

By DOLLY ANNE CARVAJAL
PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

MANILA, Philippines—Kris Aquino strikes again! If show biz insiders would compile anecdotes about their taklesa encounters with Tetay, it would be more than enough to make a book.

Kris' latest target is Charlene Gonzales, who's one of the nicest women I've ever met. At the gala show of Randy Ortiz, Kris snapped at Charlene, "Pa-star ka!" just because the color of Charl's gown was different from the set motif.

Kris Aquino

Charlene Gonzales

If there's one thing Kris hates, it's being upstaged. When Charlene confronted her, Tetay said she was just joking. Aren't jokes half-meant?

Struck by Cupid

Acoustic King Paolo Santos is kissing his bachelor days goodbye. It will be an unorthodox wedding with his fiancée Jiji Jorge on Oct. 11 at Nuestra Senora de Gracia (Guadalupe).

"I was a wild child in my early days as a musician," Pao reveals. "Kasi in my line of work, booze is free and I meet a lot of women. But when I started hanging out with Ji, I never wanted to be anywhere else because she understands the moody and emotional artist in me. She's a lawyer so yari ako pag argument time! Idadaan ko na lang sa kanta when she's mad (laughs)."

Pao has been serenading hopeless romantics with his hit songs like "Moonlight Over Paris." Now it's his turn to be struck by Cupid.

24-hour break

I was deluged by text messages about an item in this paper's lifestyle section last Sunday about Dr. Vicki Belo and Dr. Hayden Kho's romance going pffft. They cooled off for 24 hours only but it didn't make their love turn cold.

Vicki is in Paris alone for a much-needed break. The French capital is known as le ville que protégé l'amour (the city that protects love) so it's really the perfect place for Vicki to look into her coeur de coeurs (heart of hearts).

Sometimes lovers have to be apart to be able to see what they had together.

PERSONAL FINANCE

Scared of falling into debt—again

Editor's Note: This is a partnership between INQUIRER.net and Citibank to help readers handle their personal finances well.

Question: Everything seems to be expensive these days — all prices are going up but my income stays the same. To make ends meet, I am tempted to use my credit card but I'm worried about overspending. I've fallen into the debt trap three years ago and luckily got out but I don't want to ever fall in again. I'm thinking of canceling my credit card but what if I'll need it?—Mary Ann S.

Answer: We're glad that you were able to get out of your debt trap. It's not easy to be stuck deep in debt beyond your paying capacity.

It could take months, even years, of painful and diligent payments until that mountain of debt disappears. That's because interest charges continue to pile up while you're paying what you can until the whole debt is paid off.

Another unfortunate consequence of being caught in a debt trap is having your credit reputation affected. In cases when unpaid debts have been turned over to collection agencies, credit card companies will not only cancel the credit card; they will also keep a record which may make it difficult for you to have access to credit in the future. For some people, legal troubles add to the list of headaches.

It's good that you were able to successfully pay off your debt, and still have your credit card. While you may be wary of using it again for fear of overspending, it would be wise to keep your credit card for the following reasons:

It is a convenient form of payment. You don't have to carry much cash or run to the ATM if you have your credit card. It will also make it easy for you to buy large ticket items such as appliances, or even pay tuition fees with just one swipe. When you're traveling abroad, you don't even have to pay using the foreign currency; your credit card, accepted all over the world, will do.

It is the accepted mode of payment for online purchases. With a credit card, you can buy goods from legitimate sellers, from books to software, without fear of having the money lost in transit. You can also easily transact with companies abroad while you are here using your credit card.

It is a valuable credit line available when you need it. Should you need cash, you can get a cash advance through your credit card wherever you may be. You'll just need to go to an ATM.

It can be a helpful tool in managing finances. You can arrange to have all your utility bills automatically charged to your credit card, so you won't have to worry about missing a payment. With the credit card bill, you can also see at a glance your expenses for the month.

How to make sure you don't fall in debt again

Knowing how hard it is to pay off credit card debt, you may have learned your lesson already of not overspending. Don't be afraid to use your credit card again. It's not the credit card that's at fault; you need only to make sure you do the following:

1. Be aware of your credit limit. Credit card companies assign each cardholder a credit limit based on the cardholder's capacity to pay. Every time you charge a purchase, run a balance against your credit limit to make sure you are still within the limit. Going over the credit limit may lead the card company to disapprove succeeding purchases.

2. Find out your debt ratio. This shows how much you owe compared to how much you earn. It is computed by dividing the total amount needed to pay debts by your take-home pay. The lower the ratio, the better.

Experts say no more than 15 to 20 percent of your monthly take home pay excluding rent and mortgage should be allotted for debts, including credit card payments. If you are over this percentage, hold off charging more purchases.

3. Set a monthly limit to charges and stick to it. From your debt ratio, you can determine how much leeway you can have each month for charge purchases. Make a budget for all your expenses every month and from this you will see which expenses can be charged.

4. Shop as carefully with credit as you do with cash. Every time you are tempted to buy something, ask yourself if it is a need or a want. If it is something you don't need right away, it is a want and therefore it can wait when you have the cash to spare. Prioritize the needs.

5. Pay more than the minimum amount in your credit card bill. This will minimize interest charges, which can make your debt bigger.

6. Spend as you earn. Don't charge purchases in anticipation of future earnings. Track your spending and income.

7. Pay your bill on time. You'll be charged a late payment fee on top of interest charges if you miss the due date.

By consciously watching your spending and following the above tips, you'll use your credit card wisely—just the way it was meant to be. For more credit advice, log on to www.usecreditwisely.citibank.com.ph, where you can also compute for your debt ratio online.

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Maharlika – Opinyon

Intelligence

THERE'S THE RUB

By CONRADO DE QUIROS
Philippine Daily Inquirer

Jose Dueno had a most interesting letter last Monday, ("Cebu gave Arroyo the Palace"). It's a fairly short one, and I'll reprint it here in full for the benefit of those who did not get to read it:

"There was a factual error in Conrado de Quiros' column titled, 'Stop the madness.' In the 10th paragraph, he wrote: 'We have the longest serving president who was never elected president.'

"We all know that President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo was duly elected president of the Philippines. The vote was decided in Cebu where she got more than a million votes. Maybe De Quiros based his assumption on the fact that Arroyo's foe was actor Fernando Poe, Jr. and actors are 'unbeatable' because of their immense popularity.

"Well, I'm sorry to disappoint De Quiros but we have proven him wrong this time. With intelligent voting, we can actually beat actors and other clowns wanting to join the presidential race."

I wouldn't have given much thought to these remarks except that they carry kernels of thoughts that are not just most interesting but are most important. There are three of them in particular, which are these, in increasing order of importance:

The first is that we all know that Arroyo was duly elected president of the Philippines. That is not fact, that is wish-fulfillment. The opposite is true, if you go by the surveys, which say that most Filipinos do not believe that Arroyo won in 2004. Anticipating the argument that surveys are not votes, let me hasten to add that Malacañang's defense of Arroyo's legitimacy has been to say that her victory was credible because many of the surveys before the elections predicted she would win. What can one say? Surveys are not votes.

Whether Arroyo won by a million votes in Cebu province, I leave others, not least the Cebuanos themselves, to dispute. Why the Cebuanos love Arroyo more than the Kapampangans (she is supposed to have won by a bigger margin in Cebu than in her home province, Pampanga), only Dueno can say. Arroyo has had more Batangueños in her Cabinet, but she did not win awesomely in Batangas. But whether the votes in Cebu offset the votes in the rest of the country, particularly Muslim Mindanao, which was Fernando Poe Jr. territory, that I will dispute. As others have, including Brig. Gen. Francisco Gudani and Col. Alexander Balutan, who were there but who were forbidden from disputing.

Which brings me to the second, and more important, point. My basis for saying that Arroyo is not the elected president is simple: She called up Garci [then-election commissioner Virgilio Garcillano—editor]. She called up Garci repeatedly, restlessly, recklessly, relentlessly, criminally. She asked Garci to make her win by one million votes. When your president, sponsor and benefactor asks, "So, will I win by one million votes?" you may not answer no. In fact, you may not answer at all. It is not a question, it is an order.

Calling up an official of the Commission on Elections again and again during counting is not a lapse of judgment, it is a crime. It may not be rewarded with Malacañang, it may be punished with Muntinlupa. Whatever the results of the counting, they were voided by that one ignominious act. You catch a student in the act of cheating in the final exams, you expel him. You catch a candidate in the act of cheating in elections, you jail her. The idea that "everybody cheats anyway" is moronic. At the very least, if so, then it's time we stopped it, and nowhere better than when it was done barefacedly. At the very most, if so, why bother having elections? Why not just appoint Arroyo empress for life?

And finally the notion that the vote for Arroyo was the intelligent vote.

Do I assume that "Arroyo's foe" in 2004, Fernando Poe Jr., was "unbeatable?" Well, it is not an unreasonable assumption: He was popular in the extreme, notwithstanding his friend Joseph Estrada. But I did not assume that, I do not assume that, and I will not assume that. I've written again and again and I will continue to write again and again that the "winnability" of candidates is not foreordained by heaven, it is aftordained by us. We have the power, we have the vote. We vote for a candidate, he wins; we do not vote for a candidate, he loses.

That was my assumption then, that is my assumption now. Which was why I backed up Raul Roco when even my friends were questioning his "winnability." That brings me to the notion of "Arroyo foe": Arroyo did not just have one foe, she had several foes. The others were Roco, Eddie Villanueva and Panfilo Lacson. Why should rejecting actors mean embracing Arroyo? You could always have rejected actors—and far more surely since Arroyo herself, as evidenced by her image-building, was a politician desperately trying to be an actor or an actor desperately trying to be a politician—by voting for any of the others.

Did 2004 (and 2007) write finish to actors turning politicians? Maybe. But the monumental question is: Who won and at what cost? The pathetic answer to "Who won?" is: the "trapos" [traditional politicos; also Spanish for dirt rags — editor]. The same manipulators, wheeler-dealers, two-bit hustlers who lied, cheated and stole their way to power, the same trapos the public had rightly rejected before, people like Doy Laurel, Ramon Mitra and Jose de Venecia, who all ran for presidents with the kiss-of-death label, "trapo," written on their foreheads, were back. The kiss of death had turned into a kiss of life, no small thanks to the quintessential trapo of all, Arroyo.

And the pathetic answer to "At what cost?" is: the elections themselves. Arroyo had solved the riddle of the Gordian knot by slicing it with a sword: She had made sure popularity would not count by making sure votes would not be counted. That is the nightmarish legacy of 2004. Today, you have to ask yourself: Why will you want to vote when your vote won't be counted anyway?

I leave everyone, including the Cebuanos, to ask if bringing all that about was incredibly intelligent.

EDITORIAL

Cooked

MANILA, Philippines—Samak Sundaravej is out as prime minister, stripped of his post by Thailand's Constitutional Court. It is no coincidence that the court ruling came after thousands of Thais took over the government office of the man they regard as the Machiavellian proxy of the disgraced former prime minister, Thaksin Shinawatra, and vowed to stay there until he stepped down from office.

Samak came to power after the military government that ousted Thaksin ceded political control and allowed new elections. He assumed Thaksin's old office in large part because he benefited from Thaksin s political legacy: a dramatic realignment of the sources of political power in Thailand.

But he also inherited Thaksin's controversies, particularly an alleged climate of corruption that became the Thai military's rationale for deposing the billionaire businessman in a coup in 2006.

Samak, however, added his own controversies, riling the public. He virtually waged war on the Thai media. He opened himself to conflict-of-interest charges. And that proved to be his undoing. But perhaps the most embarrassing of his many missteps was his resurrection of the discredited idea of forming an Organization of Rice Exporting Countries amid an international rice emergency. The suggestion immediately defined Thailand, the world's leading rice exporter, as dictated by greed and unconcerned about the effect of controlled prices on rice-importing countries like the Philippines. The reaction from the Thai public (and reportedly from Thailand's royal house) was swift and unequivocal, and Samak quickly withdrew the proposal. But the damage had been done. Because of this and many other scandals, Samak was damaged goods.

And yet while the case against Thaksin was robust, the case against Samak is shaky, at best. Samak's fault was that he did not represent Thailand's old elites. Instead, he came to power because Thaksin had redrawn the political map, and channeled power, in particular the power to elect key political leaders, to the periphery, to farmers and peasants. Thaksin's populist policies created a new power bloc solid enough to return Thaksin-era politicians to office.

In the old days, political power was sanctioned by Thailand's revered king and shared by business, the civil service and the military. In Thaksin's political map, the king remains the source of legitimacy, but political power is concentrated in new hands.

In effect, the crisis in Thailand has held the country's democracy hostage. Samak was catapulted to power because essentially free elections put him there. The protesters, however, for reasons both good and bad, wanted to undo the election results.

The Philippines in a Golden Age

LOOKING BACK

By AMBETH OCAMPO
Philippine Daily Inquirer

Comments are welcome at aocampo@ateneo.edu.

MANILA, Philippines—Billed as "the exhibit you waited a thousand years to see," the Ayala Museum Gold Room is worth a visit. All that glitters is gold—pre-Spanish gold, that is, jewelry made by our ancestors that is jaw-dropping. Before the Ayala Museum exhibit, one already marveled at the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas Gold Room, a walk-in vault underneath the Metropolitan Museum. This display in quantity and the quality of its presentation set a new benchmark for curatorial design. I don't normally gush, but I have been to the Ayala show half a dozen times and I have yet to get over my enthusiasm.

On my last visit, I spent a lot of time in front of a computer screen. I ignored the gold because what the Ayala Museum now also has is a "virtual copy" of the Boxer Codex. This untitled late 16th century manuscript is one of the treasures in the Lilly Library in the University of Indiana in Bloomington, and Filipinos don't have to go abroad to consult this wonderful illuminated manuscript presently known under the name of its former owner, the eminent English historian C.R. Boxer (1904-2000), one of the authorities on Asia in his time.

Fifteen years ago, I was invited to lunch at Boxer's home outside London, and he told me with a wide smile how he purchased this treasure cheaply at an auction in the late 1940s. It was listed as an 18th century manuscript on Asia in the catalogue and Boxer sent in a bid of 40 pounds—and forgot about it. Some weeks later, the manuscript arrived in the mail. When Boxer opened the package to examine the new acquisition, he realized that the auction house cataloguer was mistaken and he had stumbled on an unpublished sixteenth century manuscript. Seeing the manuscript on a computer screen in the Ayala Museum brought back memories of that wonderful lunch and the chance to handle the original manuscript.

I went to the museum to look at the text of the manuscript because somewhere on its margins is an illustration of a "penis implement" first mentioned in Antonio Pigafetta's account of the Magellan expedition. I ask my students to draw this based on the text and the results are some of the most amazing drawings from their hormone-fed imaginations. In the Boxer Codex we at least have an idea of what this mysterious thing looks like. I was not disappointed.

After this, I went over the illustrations. While there are other printed and manuscript sources on the Philippines, what makes the Boxer Codex stand out are the detailed colored illustrations of sixteenth century Filipinos embellished with gold leaf showing their clothing and ornamentation. Boxer was of the opinion that such a fine illuminated manuscript was custom-made for an important personage in Spanish Philippines, probably the governor-general or even the archbishop of Manila. The manuscript covers Cagayan, Zambales, the Tagalog areas, Visayas and sections of neighboring Indonesia and even China. Some of the illustrations have been widely reproduced in books and have even been used on bathroom curtains and T-shirts.

The Boxer Codex is particularly important with regard to the clothing and ornaments of 16th century Philippines. It shows not only how different ethno-linguistic groups at the point of contact with the West dressed, but more importantly how gold jewelry excavated in archeological sites in the last century were worn.

Most early Spanish accounts of the Philippines mention gold jewelry. Pigafetta was the first to describe pre-Spanish, pre-colonial gold.

In recent years, many gold artifacts have been found in archeological sites all over the Philippines. Unfortunately, these were looted by pot-hunters. Thus taken out of their context, it is difficult to know how these gold pieces were once worn and what other materials were associated with the gold.

Different Spanish accounts provide descriptions of the jewelry and sometimes even note what the various earrings, chains, bracelets, rings, anklets, armlets, leg-lets and toe-lets were called. With both text and illustrations, the Boxer Codex makes it easier for scholars to study pre-colonial gold.

The Ayala Museum gold differs from that of the BSP because the artifacts are supplemented by illustrations all done in an age before the digital camera. Thus the Boxer Codex illustrations can be used for other contemporary accounts, for example Antonio de Morga's "Sucesos de las islas Filipinas" (Mexico, 1609) which describes the clothing of the male inhabitants of Luzon thus: "chains of gold wound round the neck, worked like spun wax and with links in our fashion, some larger than others, bracelets on the arms which they call "calombigas," made of gold very thick and of different patterns, and some with strings of stones, carnelians and agates and others of blue and white stones which are much esteemed among them."

We can only hope that other illustrated 16th century accounts of the Philippines and the Filipinos will come to light in years to come. But for the moment, the richest and earliest visual manuscript on the Philippines in terms of detail and beauty is the Boxer Codex which documents the Philippines, literally, in a Golden Age.

Samu't Sari

Chamber of Commerce for OFWs pushed

By KRISTY ANNE C. TOPACIO-MANALAYSAY and JEREMAIAH M. OPINIANO
WWW.OFWJOURNALISM.NET

MANILA–People who built their business from working abroad are moving to form a Chamber of Commerce to lure more overseas Filipino workers into becoming entrepreneurs.

"Instead of going to greedy local businessmen, fellow OFWs can go to themselves and make arrangements to supply some raw materials, or even provide discounts to some of their products to fellow OFW entrepreneurs," businessman Miguel Bolos told the *OFW Journalism Consortium*®.

Bolos spoke about the moves to form an organization after a meeting of former overseas Filipino workers-turned-entrepreneurs early March.

That meeting was attended by Filipinos who successfully built a business using what they earned and learned from working abroad.

There's the garments export business couple Alberto and Liza Perez.

Alberto used to work as a steel fabricator in Saudi Arabia, Aruba and Malta before going into business with hundred thousand pesos (US$2,083.30 at current exchange rates) and 17 sewing machines as capital.

Before it was Perezes who went overseas; now it's their Apryl and Aira's Apparel brand, which they claim are bought by Wal-Mart in New York, United States.

There's also former Saudi Arabia contract worker Eduardo Callera who owns Canor Express International Brokerage Inc., a customs brokerage firm.

Before, the boxes of products Callera sent home to his family in the Philippines were the ones transported in trucks. Now, Callera's business—his trucks—moves these boxes to both domestic and international senders.

Bolos believes that an OFW chamber of commerce will enable fellow migrant entrepreneurs to talk among themselves and be suppliers of needed raw materials for their products.

It just might work because, as he said: "We need it."

No OFW chamber of commerce based in the Philippines exists, although Bolos said he, fellow returning OFW Francisco Aguilar and fellow migrant workers in Saudi Arabia have tried—and currently moves to—forming such an organization.

Filipino immigrants in the United States have formed county-level and a US-wide chamber of commerce. The biggest of these chambers is the Federation of Philippine-American Chambers of Commerce (FPACC), a network of some 46 chapter chambers of commerce that have over-5,000 member-enterprises run by Filipino-Americans.

There is even no inventory of existing small, medium and large-scale enterprises run by former OFWs in the country that, Bolos thinks, can be linked together as members of a chamber of commerce.

Chambers of commerce are organizations that group businesses in town, though not usually associated with government, on a common interest. It could also include economic development groups, as well as tourism and visitors bureaus, according to a *Wikipedia* entry.

Bolos said he believes this group can help arm OFWs with skills in enterprise development by giving training and business development services.

This can gradually address the failure of many enterprises run by returning migrant workers whose businesses are part of their reintegration into the country, he added.

Likewise, the blueprint for the OFW Chamber of Commerce includes determining local markets for Filipinos still working abroad.

An example of such is Donsol's Motor Works, based in Laguindingan, Misamis Oriental and owned by 16-year Saudi Arabia-based contract worker Vivencia Ellorina.

The enterprise assembles and manufactures passenger jeepneys, and has produced some 800 total jeepney units for clients based in Cagayan de Oro City and the provinces of Cebu, Negros Occidental, Bukidnon, and Misamis Oriental.

Most of Donsol's Motor Works' clients are seafarers and overseas performing artists, a brochure cited.

Another example is David's Well Crafts & More, based in Bauang, La Union and owned by Lowell and Eden de Castro Villa. They sell home décor services like topiaries (shrub trimming), wreaths, swags (curtain window treatments that can be hung on a rod or attached to a mounting board), candle holders, wooden clocks, among others, and markets those to four branches of SM Department Store and at a provincial trade center.

Since their products and services are considered niche, the De Castro Valle couple also put up a store for photocopying services and sells school and office supplies.

Lowell told the *OFWJC* that sans a chamber of commerce, they put up their business relying on each other.

"I design, my husband is in charge of production," Eden added.

She said an organization of OFWs-turned-entrepreneurs could help since one of the biggest challenges they faced in growing their business was penetrating the mainstream market.

"If we did not manage to enter the SM malls system, we wouldn't have a market," De Castro Villa added.

Bolos said a chamber of commerce could also be instrumental in giving OFWs a chance to buy public utility firms like water and power distribution, especially in provinces.

"There are public utilities owned by the government that can be sold to overseas Filipinos," Bolos said.

These, he added, could be safely farmed out to a business organization of overseas Filipinos.

"Owing to being migrant workers in the past, an OFW chamber of commerce can lead to mutual business benefits for them," Bolos said.

OFW Journalism Consortium

BEACH CLEANUP

Saipan Grand Hotel employees recently did a cleanup at the hotel's beach side in Susupe headed by general manager Ed Cho. The beach cleanup is a monthly activity of the volunteer employees in an effort to maintain the cleanliness of the hotel's beach side.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Happy birthday to Gerry Balarao, from you friends Obet, Ren-Ren and the rest of the badminton players.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

CLUB V

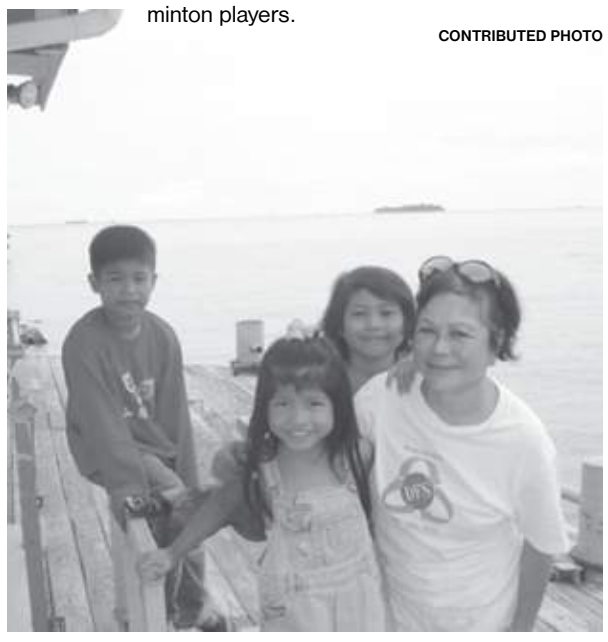
Garrie, Susan, Andrew, Teddy and Celso enjoying the night at Club V on Saturday.

CONTRIBUTE PHOTO

FREEDOM WALK

Friends of the Mariana Islands president Marites Castillo, right, and members gather for a photo after participating in Saipan's first "Freedom Walk" at the American Memorial Park yesterday. The event honors the victims of 9/11 and America's military personnel, as well as to celebrate freedom.

JACQUELINE HERNANDEZ



Happy birthday greetings go out to *lola* Violy Dangca. "Happy birthday, *lola*. We love you so much." From Royce, Rane and Roxy.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Youngstyle

Their lives were shaped by loss

By DONNA ST. GEORGE
(C) 2008, THE WASHINGTON POST

WASHINGTON—Megan Donovan was 11 when her father was killed at the Pentagon. Middle school is a dark memory. By 13, she had attended so many Sept. 11 funerals and remembrances that she recalls being mystified about an invitation to a fancy celebration.

"I know how to dress for a funeral, but how do you dress for a wedding?" she remembers asking her mother one day in their Alexandria, Va., home.

As the Pentagon Memorial is dedicated Thursday, Donovan is a poised, clear-eyed freshman several weeks into classes at Wake Forest University and excited about what lies ahead.

But like other children whose lives were shaped by people they lost that horrific day—a mother, a father, a sibling—she also is still grasping what it means to have had a childhood so steeped in national tragedy, so riven with anguish and pain.

As parent Tom Heidenberger says, for the children of Sept. 11, "it was not just a life that was taken, but their innocence."

Donovan, 18, agrees that as a child, it was hard to fathom that a terrorist attack could have killed her father, William Donovan, 37, a likable Navy commander who was a P-3 pilot during Operation Desert Shield. Megan keeps a framed photo of him on her bedside table.

"Losing your dad is such a huge, huge thing that everything else pretty much fell beneath that," she says. "There was nothing else that really mattered when I was little. I mean, that was what made my life, and that was kind of what dictated what I did and how I conducted myself and everything else.

"The biggest thing," Donovan says, "was that I have had to grow up a lot faster than kids my age."

The eldest of three children, Donovan took on more than most. At West Potomac High School, she was captain of the field hockey and swim teams, played soccer, made the honor roll, tutored younger children and was elected junior class president. She was a valedictorian when she graduated this year.

It takes hard work and commitment, she says, to move beyond grief. "You just have to be really dedicated and driven to want to live," she says.

For many children of Sept. 11, the Pentagon Memorial will become a sacred space to remember the father, mother or sibling they lost.

Megan Donovan has been involved in the project in small ways for years, attending board meetings with her mother and helping with fundraising events. Thomas Heidenberger II, who lost his mother, Michele, rode a 12-mile leg of a national bike ride his father organized to raise money for the memorial. John Allen Jr. expects to remember his mother, Samantha Lightbourn-Allen, there, and Devita Bishundat will remember her brother, Kris Romeo Bishundat.

As Becca Dolan says, the hope is that the memorial will be meaningful to the families who bear the losses of Sept. 11 as well as to the larger world. "It's not a bad thing that people move on: You don't want people to live in paranoia and fear," says Dolan, the daughter of Navy Capt. Robert Dolan, who was killed in the Pentagon attack. "But at the same time, you don't want people to forget."

Staff researcher Magda Jean-Louis contributed to this report.

THE WASHINGTON POST
Megan Donovan, 18, of Alexandria, Va., lost her father, Navy Cmdr. William Donovan in the 2001 Pentagon attack. "The biggest thing," the Wake Forest University freshman says, "was that I have had to grow up a lot faster than kids my age."

'I *definitely grew up quicker*

By DONNA ST. GEORGE
(C) 2008, THE WASHINGTON POST

Thomas Heidenberger II
Son of Michele Heidenberger

Thomas Heidenberger II was 14, in his third week of classes at Gonzaga College High School, on Sept. 11, 2001—the day his mother, Michele, 52, was the senior flight attendant on Flight 77.

"The hardest part about it was that I just started high school, it was kind of a milestone in my life, and then that happens, and it kind of knocks you down," Heidenberger recalls. "I definitely grew up quicker. What worse could happen to you, you know?"

In the weeks after, the support of friends and family became a lifeline. Thomas and his father leaned on each other. Thomas' sister, Alison, then 20, was at college.

"If it wasn't for him ... , " his father says, nodding at his now-21-year-old son.

THE WASHINGTON POST
Sept. 11 has "motivated me to push further," says Thomas Heidenberger II, of Chevy Chase, Md., who lost his mom, the senior flight attendant on American Airlines Flight 77 that crashed into the Pentagon In 2001.

A year later, Thomas transferred to Georgetown Preparatory School to be nearer to friends from his elementary school, Mater Dei.

During his high school years, Thomas worked many of his required community service hours at St. Ann's Infant and Maternity Home in Hyattsville, Md., where his mother had volunteered.

Life without a big brother

By DONNA ST. GEORGE
(C) 2008, THE WASHINGTON POST

Devita Bishundat
Sister of Kris Romeo Bishundat

Devita Bishundat was 17, in her first week at Goucher College, when her family's life in Waldorf, Md., was rended. Her big brother, Kris Romeo Bishundat, a Navy petty officer, was killed when Flight 77 crashed into the Pentagon.

He was 23, a fun-loving one-time basketball player at Thomas Stone High School who made good with a military career. His parents emigrated from Guyana when he was young.

"To this day, I have no idea how I finished the semester," Bishundat, 24, says, thinking back. "I literally have no clue."

Her brother's death redefined everything that followed, she says: how she views the world and relationships, imagines her career. She has become more passionate about politics. She hopes to go to graduate school and work in public service.

THE WASHINGTON POST
Devita Bishundat's bracelet honors her brother Romeo, a Navy petty officer who was killed in the Pentagon attack on Sept. 11, 2001. He was 23. Devita, shown in Washington, turned 24 this year.

"I feel it's really made me look at my life in a different way — who I am as a person, what I care about — and really act on that and believe in that," she says. "It is such a big part of me and who I am and my family and my identity now."

Turning 23, she says, was especially tough: both the idea that she has outlived her brother and that she has "the opportunity to do things he will never have the opportunity to do."

To her surprise, the feelings recurred when she turned 24.

But remembering him helps. She recalls that her brother believed in "paying favors forward," offering small acts of kindness that might leave the world a better place.

She imagines that if Romeo were alive, he might be married, with children, perhaps still in the Navy and driving his beloved black Jeep.

Without mom, on his own at 19

By DONNA ST. GEORGE
(C) 2008, THE WASHINGTON POST

John Allen Jr.
Son of Samantha Lightbourn-Allen

Samantha Lightbourn-Allen, 36, woke her son, John Allen Jr., that morning in Forestville, Md., before she left for work as a budget analyst at the Pentagon. She wanted him to be on time for classes at Suitland High School.

John was 16.

In the days after Sept. 11, he barely cried. He wanted to believe workers would find his mother in the wreckage of American Airlines Flight 77. His grades fell at one point, he said. He pulled them up, thinking of his baseball team. His grades sank again, and he had to sit out part of the season.

Senior year, he regained his focus on schoolwork. He played baseball again and was the team's designated hitter.

Allen moved in with his maternal grandparents after losing his mother. His parents had divorced. Then, at 19, he got an apartment in Lanham, Md. There, without family, he cried as never before. "That's when I realized she was gone," he says.

He remembers: His mother's wanting to get on every ride when she took him and his sister to Disney World in the summer of 2001. Her working a second job at a pizza shop and bringing home leftovers. He recalls her laughter, her work ethic, her singing with the church choir, the close eye she kept on her children.

When he was 20, he says, he had a lifelike dream in which his mom was alive. "I think she was trying to tell me everything was all right, and it was time for me to move on and do what I needed to do," he says.

By then, he was studying at Prince George's (Md.) Community College but "not finding my place." In 2006, he transferred to ITT Technical Institute, where he has taken classes in computer network systems. One day, he hopes to work at Northrop Grumman.

THE WASHINGTON POST
John Allen Jr., of Washington, struggled after his mom died at the Pentagon on Sept. 11, 2001. He was 16, his parents were divorced and he moved in with his maternal grandparents. At 19, he moved out on his own.

Allen, now 23, will earn his associate's degree in March, he says, another big moment without his mother.

Such occasions are especially hard, he says. When he graduated from high school in 2003, he stopped before the ceremony and bought roses in his school colors: red and white. He laid them at her grave.

KIDSDAY MOVIES:

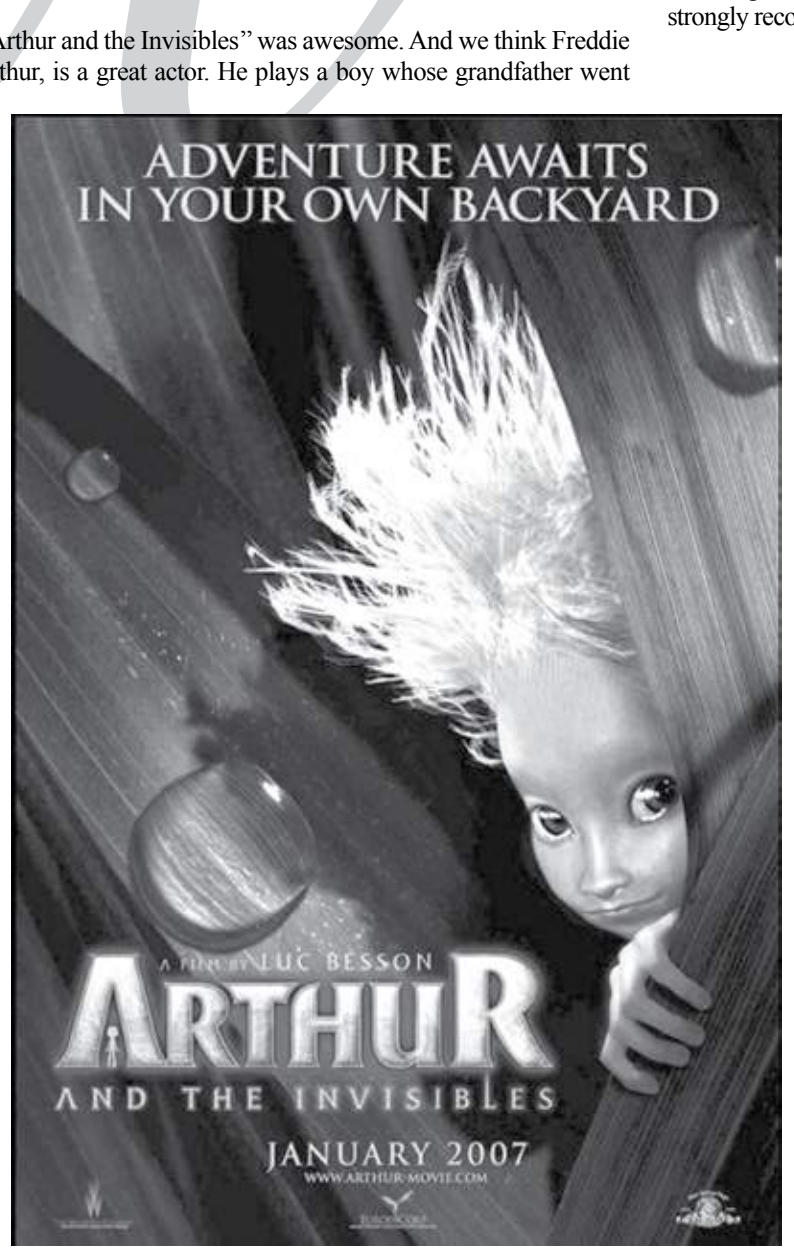
Kids' Movie Reviews

'ARTHUR AND THE INVISIBLES'

By MEGAN HART, SUZANNE MAGNUSON and NICOLE RESCIGNO
Kidsday Staff Reporters
NEWSDAY

We thought the movie ``Arthur and the Invisibles'' was awesome. And we think Freddie Highmore, who plays Arthur, is a great actor. He plays a boy whose grandfather went missing in the invisible world. His grandfather hid rubies in an invisible world, but when he needed them he couldn't find them and got lost. We loved how the film went from reality to animation. It is a great film to see if you like adventure and fiction movies. We recommend it for all ages. We give it 4 1/2 stars (out of 5).

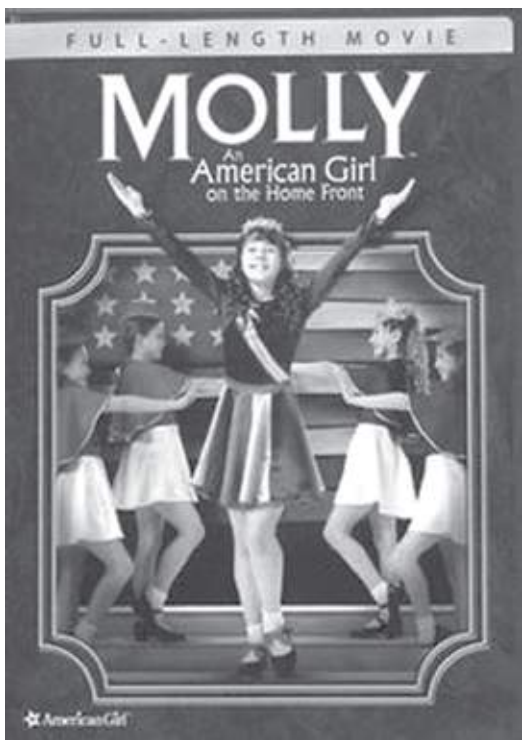
After seeing the film, we met with Highmore, 14, at Planet Hollywood in Manhattan. He told us he lives in London with his brother and parents. He likes to play soccer and has season tickets to his favorite club, Arsenal. He also told us he just finished filming the movie ``The Spiderwick Chronicles.'' He said, ``It was filmed in Montreal, and we finished that right before Christmas. In it I play twins, which was great to do because I get to differentiate between the two characters. One is sort of a bad person, and one is nice.'' It's coming out in 2008.



'AMERICAN GIRL' DVD

By EMILY ROSENTHAL and KATHRYN EILER
Kidsday Staff Reporters
NEWSDAY

We watched the DVD ``Molly: An American Girl on the Home Front.'' Molly McIntyre is an average 10-year-old girl growing up in Illinois during World War II. There are two stories in this movie. When she finds out her father has to serve as a doctor in England, she is devastated. One day, a girl from England named Emily Bennett comes to live with the McIntyres to escape the bombing of England. Emily is very shy at first but soon becomes great friends with Molly. Molly and Emily are the last two contestants in a spelling bee, but they tie because of some interruptions. The second story is about Molly, who loves to tap dance but isn't that good. She practices a lot because she wants to perform as Miss Victory for her father, who really thinks she can do it. Because of Molly's improvement and determination, her teacher picks Molly to be Miss Victory. Something fantastic happens after her dance, but you'll have to see the movie. We give this movie a perfect 5. We thought it was really emotional, outgoing and entertaining. It teaches girls to have hope and to always believe in yourself. We strongly recommend this movie for girls ages 7 to 14.



Why do songs get stuck in your head?

(c) 2008, The Washington Post

It happens to all of us: We hear a song or a jingle and then it keeps running through our brains over and over and over, sometimes to the point where we wish we could forget it!

Researchers have given the phenomenon a name: earworms. Nobody knows exactly why they get stuck in our heads, but there are some interesting theories.

The first study on earworms showed that the kind of music most likely to get stuck in your head is simple and repetitive. In addition, the lyrics are usually unexpected.

Think about the words to "Who Let the Dogs Out?" Here's the chorus: "Who let the dogs out (woof, woof, woof, woof)." Repeat the sentence three times.

No wonder that song is a common earworm! (Some other popular earworms, which we list here only so that you can perhaps mention them in passing to siblings, parents and teachers and thus infect them, include "We Will Rock You," "Y.M.C.A." and "It's a Small World.")

The researcher who conducted the study on earworms was James Kellaris of the University of Cincinnati's College of Business. He learned that any song can become an earworm for some people.

Some people get more earworms than others. Who are they? It turns out that musicians are more likely to get them than non-musicians, and women get them more than men. For some reason, people who worry a lot are more earworm-prone than non-worriers.

This suggests that the music alone is not responsible for an earworm. Individual traits and brain design seem to play a big role, too.

Earworms can get stuck in our heads for a few minutes or even a few days. The University of Cincinnati Web site on Kellaris and earworms offers a few remedies to stop the repetition in your brain.

- Try to replace it with another, perhaps less annoying song.
- Do something to distract yourself.
- Walk to a different tempo from the one in the earworm.

Source: www.business.uc.edu/earworms/faqs

A White House with many stories

By TRACY GRANT
THE WASHINGTON POST

WASHINGTON—It's easy to think of the White House as another of Washington's chalky monuments: an impersonal, 208-year-old structure of brick and stone.

But that would be wrong, as a new book by 108 (!) writers and illustrators proves. "Our White House: Looking In, Looking Out" reminds readers that it is not just a house but a home. The writers of this book, which took 10 years to put together, use essays, short stories and poetry to tell tales of the White House and its residents, showing how the building is really made of flesh and bone.

The book is filled with a variety of writing styles. Some stories are authors' personal accounts of their experiences at the "people's house." Others are little-known tales about presidents, exceptionally well told. Still others are historical fiction in the best sense: Even though the conversations or actions might be made up, the lessons never are.

The other fantastic thing about this book is the writers. Jerry Spinelli, Patricia McLaughlin, Walter Dean Myers, Jane Yolen: If you don't find one of your favorites in the pages of this book, we'll be surprised. We think after you look at this book, you'll look at the home at 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue in a whole new way.

Richard Peck (author of "A Long Way From Chicago" and "A Year Down Yonder"). OK, how much do you know about William Henry Harrison? If you said, "He was the ninth president," we're impressed. But we can bet you don't know the sidesplittingly funny — and true — story about President Harrison that Peck recounts. It involves a milk cow and the White House; need we say more?

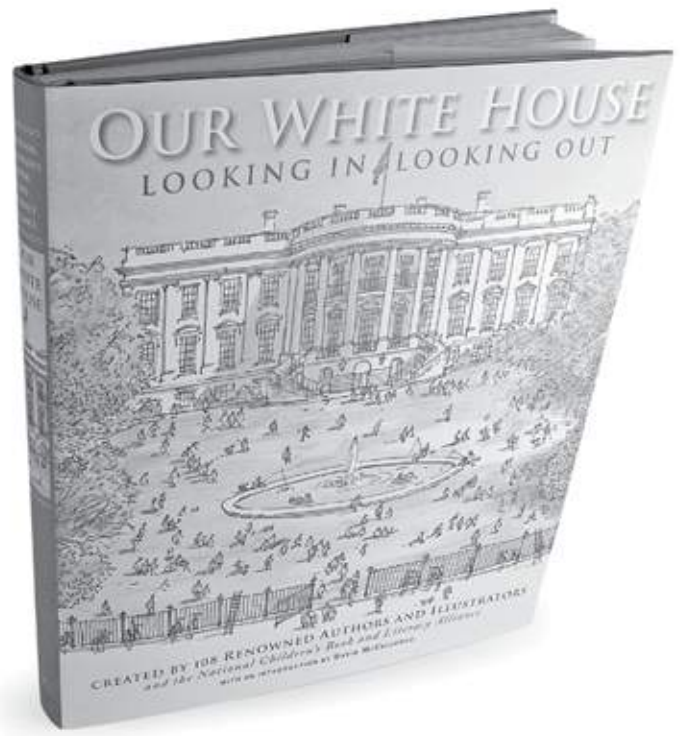
Kate DiCamillo (author of "Because of Winn-Dixie" and "The Tale of Despereaux"). The creator of those beautiful books comes through with a touching tale called "In Early April" about Abraham Lincoln and Willie, the son he lost. This short work of fiction carries with it truths about love and loss that you can take with you for the rest of your life.

Jane Yolen (author of "The Pit Dragon Chronicles," "Briar Rose" and literally hundreds of other books for all ages). Her poem imagines a conversation between the White House's first residents, John and Abigail Adams. In alternating stanzas, John lists everything that's wrong with the house, while Abigail sees only its charm and possibilities. It is a reminder that in a different time (like today), Abigail Adams could have made a terrific president.

Linda Sue Park (author of "A Single Shard" and "When My Name Was Keoko"). Her story tells of a more modern president, Harry Truman, and how his love for the piano almost led to the destruction of the White House!

Meg Cabot (author of "The Princess Diaries" and "Jinx" and lots of other books). The writer recounts, as only she can, the story of how Dolley Madison saved the famous portrait of George Washington when the White House came under attack. Even if you know the story, Cabot's take on it is a hoot.

Walter Dean Myers (author of "Monster" and "Scorpions"). You can't read anything by Myers without being challenged to think in new ways, and so it is with his essay about the slaves who helped build the White House. It's an interesting thought in a year when a black family might soon call the White House "home."

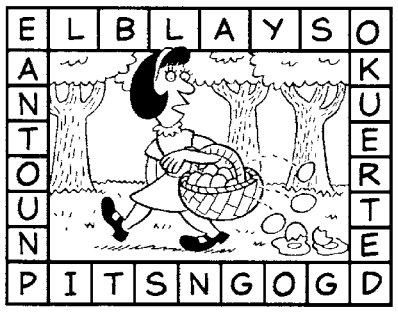


THE WASHINGTON POST
"Our White House: Looking In, Looking Out" reminds readers that it is not just a house but a home. The 108 writers of this book, which took 10 years to put together, use essays, short stories and poetry to tell tales of the White House and its residents.

White House fact

(c) 2008, The Washington Post

There are 132 rooms, 35 bathrooms, 412 doors and 147 windows in the White House. And it takes 570 gallons of paint to cover its outside surface.



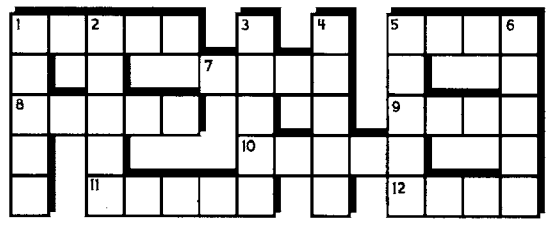
THE "YOLK'S" ON YOU if you miss this one. Hidden in the above frame is a famous old saying. You can find it by reading every other letter as you go around it clockwise. The trick is finding the right first letter.

Answer: Starting with the "D" in the lower right corner: "Don't put all your eggs in one basket."

Junior Whirl

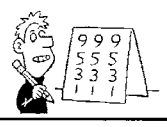
by Charles Barry Townsend

A MOUNTAIN RESORT POOL PARTY



At left is a crossword puzzle grid. Below are words pertaining to an end-of-summer party that you will need to complete the puzzle. Use the trial-and-error method. Try to finish before the last bus leaves!

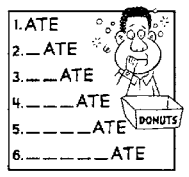
TOPSY-TURVY! To win you must circle six digits that will add up to 21. You have 60 seconds.



Answer: Turn the page upside down and circle the three 1's and the three 6's. I forgot to mention that this was a tricK question.

"FEAST" YOUR EYES ON THIS PUZZLE! In this puzzle all of the words get progressively longer, and they all end in ATE. The following hints should help:

1. What he did (in place).
2. Most gardens have one.
3. A shipping container.
4. A formal argument.
5. To put in logical order.
6. To stretch out.



Answers: 1. Ate. 2. Gate. 3. Crate. 4. Debate. 5. Collate. 6. Elongate.

4-letter words:

CAKE
CHEF
ECHO
SALT

5-letter words:

CARDS
CHESS
DECKS
DOWSE
FENCE
FLOAT
LAZES
TOWEL
WADER
WATER

Answers:
(Across) 1. Water. 5. Chef. 7. Cake. 8. Dowse. 9. Echo. 10. Decks. 11. Lazes. 12. Salt.
(Down) 1. Wader. 2. Towel. 3. Cards. 4. Fence. 5. Chess. 6. Float.

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Strange BUT TRUE

By Samantha Weaver

■ Some of those who research our sleep habits claim that humans' normal sleep pattern should alternate four hours awake with four hours asleep 24 hours a day.

■ It was several hundred years BC when famed Greek philosopher Plato made the following sage—and still relevant—observation: "One of the penalties for refusing to participate in politics is that you end up being governed by your inferiors."

■ If you pick up those flashy (and trashy) tabloid mags in the checkout line of the grocery store, you might want to consider this: The reading level of tabloids is considered to be 9 to 12 years of age.

■ The first football team on record to have a live animal mascot was the United States Naval Academy. In 1890, the story goes, midshipmen acquired a goat and named it, with a great lack of creativity, "Bill."

■ "Uncopyrightable" is one of the only 15-letter words in the English language that doesn't repeat a single letter.

■ No matter where you live in the world, if you've been paying attention at all during the past 15 or 20 years you've heard the Nike shoe company's slogan "Just Do It." In the late 1980s, the company was filming a commercial in Africa and hired a tribesman in Kenya to say the slogan in his native tongue. Instead he said, "I don't want these. Give me big shoes." And nobody, it seems, caught the substitution.

■ If you're like the average American, you spend more time watching TV than doing anything else except sleeping and working—more than four hours every day.

■ ■ ■

Thought for the Day: "No man has a prosperity so high or firm, but that two or three words can dishearten it; and there is no calamity which right words will not begin to redress."—Ralph Waldo Emerson

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MAGIC MAZE ● FLOODING

D S T Q S N L J G S E C Z X V
T S R S P N N F L A P J H E C
A Y R S E M O H W N V O T R P
N L K E I R G I E D C B R Z X
W U V S E R C P T B R E A C H
O E M C L T P U N A E L C J R
L N A T I O N A L G U A R D E
I S R E V I R U G S E C D B S
T A Y X S R E T L E H S A W C
U T S Q P O S P R O C N L V U
K J H G K C O T S E V I L F E

Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions - forward, backward, up, down and diagonally.

Breach	Evacuations	Livestock	Sandbags
Clean up	Forecast	National Guard	Shelters
Crest	Homes	Rescue	Volunteers
Crops	Levee	Rivers	

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GO FIGURE! by Linda Thistle

The idea of Go Figure is to arrive at the figures given at the bottom and right-hand columns of the diagram by following the arithmetic signs in the order they are given (that is, from left to right and top to bottom). Use only the numbers below the diagram to complete its blank squares and use each of the nine numbers only once.

DIFFICULTY: ★★★

★ Moderate ★★ Difficult
★★★ GO FIGURE!

	+		÷		10
x		+		x	
	+		–		4
+		÷		+	
	÷		x		12
21		5		13	

1 2 3 4 6 7 8 9 9

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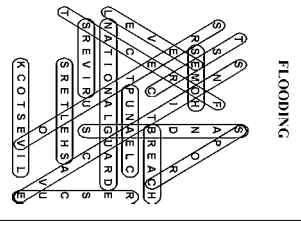
MAGIC MAZE ANSWER



GO FIGURE ANSWER

	13		5		21
12	4	x	3	÷	9
	+		÷		+
4	9	–	7	+	6
	x		+		x
10	1	÷	8	+	2

Hurricane kit for pets

Paw's corner by Sam Mazzotta

DEAR PAW'S CORNER: We're at the height of hurricane season here in the South, and I wanted to tell you about how I prepare my whole family, including our two dogs, Sadie and Sassie, in case a hurricane approaches.

I keep a "hurricane kit"—a tote bag and a cooler—in the entry hall next to the garage. In the tote bag is one change of clothes for each person in the family (my kids are out of diapers thankfully, but if they weren't, a big case of diapers would be included) and copies of our most important documents (house papers, doctor and vet information, etc.), along with a couple of books and coloring books, a hand-cranked radio/flashlight and a small first-aid kit.

A smaller bag tucked into the big tote has my dogs' necessities: two extra collars and leashes, extra medications, extra ID tags, a copy of their vet records, a couple of chew toys, a small bag of treats and two folding water bowls. In the cooler is two gallons of water, nonperishable food and snacks.

In June of each year I go through the kit, throw away expired food and medications and restock. I also buy an extra case of water and store nearby. My family knows the routine to follow if an evacuation order is issued—my sons will get the dogs while my husband loads the hurricane kit and extra water into the van, and I grab wallets and keys.

It seems like a lot to go through for a storm that usually doesn't come, but we have had to evacuate before and use our "lessons learned" to stay ready. One important thing is, don't bring the kitchen sink! Put only necessities into the kit to get through one to three days without food, water or a change of clothes. And always include your pets' needs when putting the kit together.—Morgan C., Jacksonville, Fla.

DEAR MORGAN: Thank you! Another important thing is to ensure your pets can be found if you get separated. A set of ID tags on their collar with contact information is helpful. Many owners also "chip" their pets, and while some owners are still ambivalent about this practice, it has proven invaluable during disasters in helping pets that have lost their collars get back to their owners.

■ ■ ■

Send your tips, questions and comments to Paws Corner, c/o King Features Weekly Service, P.O. Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475, or e-mail them to pawscorner@hotmail.com.

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Create fancy flowerpots for fall

Donna's Day Creative family fun by Donna Erickson

Flowerpots are more than just containers for fragrant herbs, summer's begonia's or fall's chrysanthemums. Grab a plain clay pot the next time you and your kids are at a nursery or garden center, hold it up and think of it as an artist's canvas, waiting for your creative expression. Purchase several, or repurpose empty clay pots you have at home, and you're on your way to this fun family activity.

Once you and your kids have added the artistic embellishments to the pots, fill them with fresh potting soil, plant cuttings from your summer garden or pot new flowers for fall and watch your living "windowsill masterpieces" grow. Use extra decorated pots as catchalls for desk supplies, hair accessories, etc.

Here are three easy techniques.

WACKY JUNK

Slather tile grout on the outside of a clay pot like you are frosting a cake. Dig through your toy box, junk or desk drawer and choose tiny, lightweight, whimsical items such as plastic spiders or sea creatures, a pocket mirror, leftover game piece, badge, button or coin. Embed the pieces in the grout. Let dry thoroughly.

SAND DESIGNS

Create a Southwest look, ideal for potting a cactus. Draw designs like zigzags, triangles and circles on the pot with a pencil or marker. Trace the design with white household glue on one section of the pot, then sprinkle clean, colored craft sand over the glue.

Or, cover the entire pot with tile grout (see above) and sprinkle colored sand over the grout. Embed small objects such as marbles into the sand and grout.

SIMPLE PAINTING

Paint a clean clay flowerpot with acrylic paints using a paintbrush or a painting sponge. Experiment with a crazy, splashy design of swirls, stripes and spots (dip the eraser end of an old pencil in the paint to dab on the dots).

For a spattered look, older children can dip the bristles of an old toothbrush in paint and run their thumb across the bristles to spray flecks on the pot.

Extra Grandparent Tip:

Adapt the design of a decorated pot to the interests of nearby grandparents. Plant a favorite flower or houseplant in it for a personalized gift. Each time Grandma and Grandpa turn the plant toward the sun, they'll think of a grandchild's thoughtfulness and creativity.

■ ■ ■

Donna Erickson's award-winning television series "Donna's Day" airs on public television nationwide. Visit www.donnasday.com to find out when it airs on your local PBS station and to sign up for Donna's e-newsletter.

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Life & Style

Kanye West arrested in airport dustup with paps

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Kanye West's notoriously fickle temper boiled over Thursday, resulting in his arrest for apparently helping smash a paparazzo's camera on the floor at Los Angeles International Airport.

Police arrested the music superstar shortly before 8 a.m. He and his manager, Don Crowley, were booked for investigation of felony vandalism, although prosecutors will determine what charges they might face.

West was released from police custody by Thursday afternoon. Blair Berk, who was retained as his attorney, said she couldn't comment on the incident.

Clips of the video shot by the celebrity gossip site TMZ shows West and Crowley grabbing the camera from a photographer, who is yelling "Police! Police!" and "Help me!" After they wrest it away, it appears that the manager smashes the camera to the ground, and the rapper follows by slamming down a flash.

Crowley is then seen accosting the TMZ videographer who's shooting the footage. The video camera was broken in the scuffle before security intervened, the Web site reported.

The video starts mid-confrontation, and doesn't show how it began or what might have caused it to escalate.

Los Angeles International Airport spokesman Marshall Lowe said West and Crowley were scheduled to board a flight to Honolulu, Hawaii on Thursday morning. They had not yet reached a security screening checkpoint when the altercation began.

The airport is a popular spot for the paparazzi, who frequently catch shots of Britney Spears and other celebrities arriving and leaving Los Angeles.

Charles Davis, who solicits charity donations at the airport, said he witnessed the incident, and that West was "attacked" by paparazzi, and the rapper "just defended himself."

"I talk to him all the time," Davis said. "He's a very nice gentleman. Very nice. He gives good donations to help children. He's got a good, kind heart. I've gotten his autograph several times. I just don't see why he was arrested. The man just put the camera too close to his face. I don't blame him."

Davis said he didn't think the camera was destroyed.

"It was just knocked out of the man's hand," he said.

Lowe said police at the airport interviewed witnesses and that West and Crowley were then sent to a nearby Los Angeles Police Department station for booking. West left that police station in a black Chevrolet Suburban by midafternoon, shielded by umbrellas so that photographers couldn't get a shot. He did not give a statement to reporters.

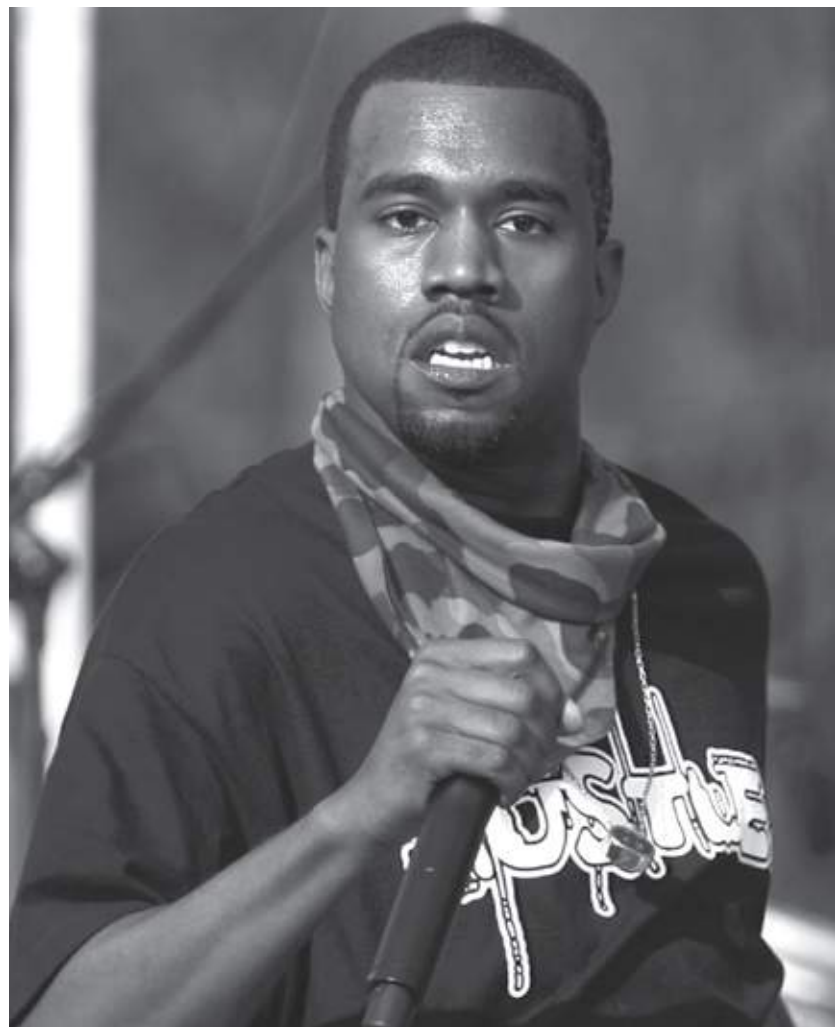
West, who rocketed to stardom in 2004 with his album "The College Dropout" and follow-ups "Late Registration" and "Graduation," has become well-known for his temper tantrums, skewering everyone from MTV to President Bush while the cameras rolled.

But before the Thursday incident at LAX's Terminal 4, his many blowups had always been verbal - making headlines rather than police blotter.

West appeared at the MTV Video Music Awards on Sunday night, which was held at the Paramount Studios lot in Hollywood. His performance of a new song concluded the show and represented a reconciliation with the network after a high-profile tiff last year.

After not winning any awards at the VMAs in 2007 despite several nominations, West declared to reporters that he would never return to MTV. The year before, he crashed the stage at the MTV Europe Music Awards and unleashed an expletive-filed tirade after his video "Touch The Sky" failed to win an award.

In 2005, West famously chastised President George W. Bush during a national telethon to raise funds after Hurricane Katrina struck by saying, "George Bush doesn't care about black people."



AP

In this May 10, 2006, file photo singer Kanye West performs during a taping of "The Ellen DeGeneres Show," in Burbank, Calif.

Paris Hilton is not alone

The heiress' entry into politics with a memorable Web video for FunnyOrDie.com earlier this summer may have been purely for laughs, but she's just one of many entertainers using the Internet to express views on the upcoming election.

AP

Lindsay Lohan arrives at the 2008 MTV Video Music Awards held at Paramount Pictures Studio Lot on Sunday, Sept. 7, 2008, in Los Angeles.

Politics and celebrity have always been somewhat awkward bedfellows - some fans resent their favorite movie star using their fame to political ends, while most politicians welcome the glitz (and money) that can come from having a celeb in their corner.

Here are a handful of entertainers who are blogging about the race between Sen. Barack Obama and Sen. John McCain. (As you might have guessed, most are for Obama.)

GINA GERSHON

FunnyOrDie's latest political parody stars Gershon as McCain's running mate, Alaska Governor Sarah Palin. Gershon's comedic talents have been underrated, particularly considering a classic appearance last year in "Curb Your Enthusiasm." Her impression here is good, if clearly partisan. She brags, "I only tried to ban one book."

ON THE NET

Celebrities blog about the election

JESSICA ALBA

The actress has been blogging on MySpace (http://blog.myspace.com/jessicaalba) and recently posted about her "eye-opening experience" at the Democratic National Convention. Alba, though, isn't blogging so much about her individual views as trying to rally people to register to vote by way of the nonprofit, nonpartisan group Declare Yourself.

ADAM MCKAY

The film director of "Stepbrothers" and "Anchorman" has his own Web site (he co-created FunnyOrDie with Will Ferrell), but he also—like a lot of people in show business—blogs on HuffingtonPost.com. His political thoughts are always tinged with comedy, making them far more palatable than many ardent bloggers. Referring to fellow Democrats, his recent post was titled: "We're Gonna Frickin' Lose this Thing."

ALEC BALDWIN

The "30 Rock" star is another prominent Huffington Post blogger. He posts roughly monthly and has a long held reputation for speaking bluntly about politics, so much so that some have speculated he might run for office someday. Baldwin's most recent post maintained that Palin is more like Pres. Bush than McCain. Baldwin is worth reading if for no other reason than because of his brashness. The same blog on Palin also included a small feud with "My Name is Earl" creator Greg Garcia.

LINDSAY LOHAN

The actress-pop star has, like Alba, been making use of her MySpace blog. Earlier this month, Lohan posted a message titled "political blog" that really had more to do with Palin's pregnant teen daughter. Her observations are interesting because they reflect her own knowledge of image control. She writes, "I get Sarah Palin's views against abortion, but I would much prefer to hear more about what she can do for our country."

Cafe Tacuba gets 6 Latin Grammy nominations

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Mexican alternative rock group Cafe Tacuba scored six Latin Grammy nominations Wednesday, including album of the year.

The group's "Sino" album also was nominated as best alternative album. Its single, "Volver a Comenzar," was nominated as record of the year and best alternative song.

"We received this news with great joy," singer Ruben Albarran, said in Mexico. "The truth is we feel grateful that after so many years of work they keep giving us space, and that our work—or better said, our passion—keeps receiving attention because in reality ... we enjoy this so much that is hard to call it work."

Earning five nominations was Colombian rocker Juanes, including his "La Vida ... Es Un Ratico" as album of the year and best male pop album. Puerto Rican pop singer Kanny Garcia, a relative newcomer, received four nominations, including album of the year and best female pop album for "Cualquier Dia."

"I feel very glad and very happy this morning", Garcia said moments after the announcement. "I am really surprised. ... With a first album one only hopes to get one's music to the audience. This has been a huge satisfaction for me."

Gustavo Santaolalla, the Argentine composer and musician-turned-producer, earned five nominations. Four of those came for his work as a producer for Cafe Tacuba and Juanes and their nominations in the Album and Record of the Year categories.

AP

In this July 6, 2008 file photo, Ruben Albarran, singer of the Mexican group Cafe Tacuba performs during the Rock in Rio music festival in Arganda del Rey, on the outskirts of Madrid.

"Recognition is always nice, especially by your colleagues, the people who are part of the music community," Santaolalla said. "I'm really happy to be associated with artists such as Juanes, such as Cafe Tacvba, Bajofondo, and I'm proud as a Latino to be part of the Academy and to celebrate all the artists and kinds of Latin music

The Latin Grammys will be held in Houston Nov. 13.

Obama to appear on 'Saturday Night Live'

NEW YORK (AP)—Oh how things have changed for Barack Obama since he last appeared on "Saturday Night Live."

The Democratic presidential nominee's campaign revealed Thursday that he would be making his second appearance on the program, for the season premiere this weekend. Also scheduled to appear is Olympic gold medal-winning swimmer Michael Phelps.

Obama last appeared on the program in November 2007, making a cameo during an opening skit about a Halloween party at Hillary Rodham Clinton's house, where she was portrayed as the presumptive president. As it turned out, Obama defeated Clinton for the Democratic nomination.

Obama's campaign said details of his new sketch were still being worked out.

AP

Democratic presidential candidate Sen. Barack Obama, D-Ill. meets with former President Bill Clinton in New York, Thursday, Sept. 11, 2008.

BET entertainment head Hudlin leaves after 3 years

LOS ANGELES (AP)—BET entertainment chief Reginald Hudlin, who boosted original programming at the channel known for music videos and reruns, is leaving the company, BET Networks said Thursday.

Hudlin is returning to his "entrepreneurial roots" as an independent producer, according to an internal memo Thursday from BET Chairwoman and CEO Debra Lee that was released publicly by BET.

BET executive Stephen Hill, who's in charge of music programming and talent, will serve as interim entertainment president during the search to replace Hudlin, Lee said.

Hudlin

In her memo, Lee lauded Hudlin for infusing BET's program development with creativity and energy, and noted that his division produced the network's highest-rated shows, including "Lil' Kim: Countdown to Lockdown" and "Keyshia Cole: The Way It Is."

Those series exposed the tough lives of the music stars and, like other BET shows, targeted younger viewers.

"Somebodies," a sitcom and BET's first scripted series, debuted this week. The channel, the most-watched network aimed at blacks, started a weekly news program in August.

Opening of ABBA museum delayed

AP

In this June 14, 1974 file photo, Swedish pop group ABBA, Bjorn Ulvaeus, back left, Benny Andersson, back right, Agnetha Faltskog, front left, and Anni-Frid Lyngstad are shown.

STOCKHOLM, Sweden (AP)—The opening of a museum dedicated to Swedish pop group ABBA has been delayed.

The initial target for the opening was June 2009, but project co-founder Ulf Westman said Thursday the renovation of the building will take longer than expected because it is "more complicated than what was predicted earlier."

Westman did not say when the museum might open.

ABBA is one of the world's most successful bands, with album sales of more than 370 million since the 1970s. The group has not performed together since 1982, but continues to sell nearly 3 million records a year. ABBA's music also inspired the long-running Broadway musical "Mamma Mia!" and the recent movie adaptation starring Meryl Streep.

The band members have donated memorabilia to the project.

'Hills' star Lauren Conrad inks book deal

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Lauren Conrad can add a new position to her resume: author.

The 22-year-old star of MTV's nonfiction series "The Hills" will pen a young adult fiction book series for HarperCollins, the publisher announced Thursday. The three-book series will be titled "L.A. Candy" and will be loosely inspired by Conrad's transformation from teenager to reality TV star and fashion designer.

"I've always loved books that I could lose myself in, ones that would transport me to another place, but had characters I could relate to," Conrad said. "I'm so excited to have this opportunity to write books like that for other readers."

The first book in the series will be published summer 2009.

Conrad

It's a boy for Laila Ali and Curtis Conway

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Laila Ali and her husband, former Bears receiver Curtis Conway, are new parents of a baby boy whose name packs a familiar punch.

Curtis Muhammad Conway, Jr. was born Aug. 26, the couple's first child, Ali announced on her Web site Thursday. The boy is named after his father, and Ali's - Muhammad Ali.

While Ali, 30, had planned to have a natural, home birth, "there were some surprises during labor that altered Laila's birth plan," her publicist, Thea Ellis, said in a statement. She declined to elaborate.

"Mama and baby are resting," Ali wrote on her Web site, where she blogged throughout her pregnancy.

Laila Ali, a professional boxer and decorated champion in her own right, is the daughter of Muhammad Ali and his third wife, now Veronica Porsche Anderson. Conway spent the better part of his football career playing for Chicago in the 1990s.

Stay-at-home mom questions setting example for daughters

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby

DEAR ABBY: I married my high school sweetheart at 18 and put off college to start the family that we always wanted. Nine years later, we have three beautiful daughters.

My husband has a great job with a good salary. I have never had to work, but now I feel totally dependent on him. I have expressed my feelings to him about wanting a career. He tells me I already have one—taking care of the family. He says I need to be at home with them.

Abby, I feel like I should get out of the house and start a career of my own so my daughters don't think their place in the world is to be only a stay-at-home mommy. Don't get me wrong, I love being with and taking care of my girls. But am I doing long-term damage to them by being so dependent on their father for everything?

TEXAS MOMMY

DEAR TEXAS MOMMY: You may think you are asking one question, but it appears you have two separate issues that need resolving. Your concern about feeling completely financially dependent shouldn't be ignored. What would happen to you and the children if something were to happen to your husband? With only a high school education to fall back on, the impact would be life-changing for you and your girls.

You ask if you are somehow damaging them because you are a full-time mommy. And yet, how can having a mother in the house whose focus is on their welfare and development be damaging? Most children should be so fortunate.

The solution to your problem lies in compromise. By that I mean devoting some of your time to taking classes so you can earn a degree when all your children are in school full time. That way—heaven forbid it should come to this—you will be able to support yourself and your daughters should the need arise.

■ ■ ■ ■

DEAR ABBY: My mother lacks social sensitivity. She just doesn't know how to communicate with people, especially her kids and grandkids. She makes critical and inappropriate comments that create tension and misunderstanding. Often her trivial opinions will bring conversations to a dead stop.

She has told me she doesn't do it on purpose. But my husband, kids and in-laws don't understand why she's the way she is. Mom had a very hard life. My father was an abusive alcoholic. After they divorced, Mom raised three kids on her own. We were very poor and don't have many good memories. We grew up surrounded by anger, hopelessness and negativity.

I love my mother very much, and I know she tried her best, but we are still a dysfunctional family. I am considering having family therapy. Mom is 73 now. Is she too old to have therapy? I really need your advice.

TRYING TO HELP IN NORTHERN CALIFORNIA

DEAR TRYING TO HELP: If someone recognizes there is a problem and is open to getting help, then there is no age limit for psychotherapy. However, if you think family therapy will change your mother, you're barking up the wrong tree. What family therapy can do is help you, your husband, your kids and the in-laws to react differently to her—and in a case like this, it might be helpful.

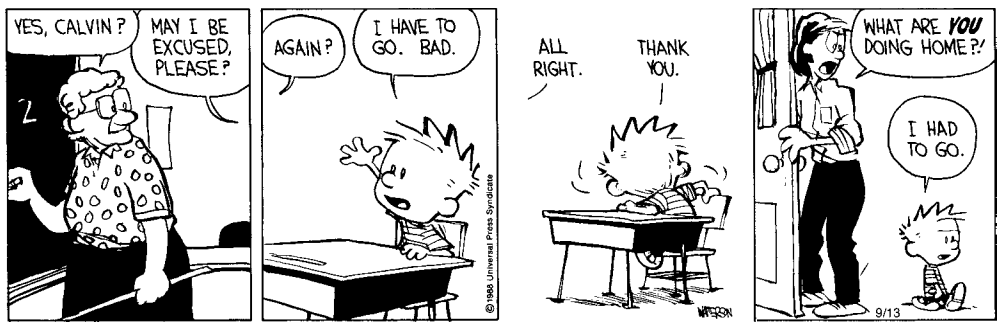
Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

What teens need to know about sex, drugs, AIDS and getting along with peers and parents is in "What Every Teen Should Know." To order, send a business-sized, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for $6 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby – Teen Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included in the price.)

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson


YES, CALVIN? MAY I BE EXCUSED, PLEASE?
AGAIN? I HAVE TO GO. BAD.
ALL RIGHT.
THANK YOU.
WHAT ARE YOU DOING HOME?!
I HAD TO GO.
9/13
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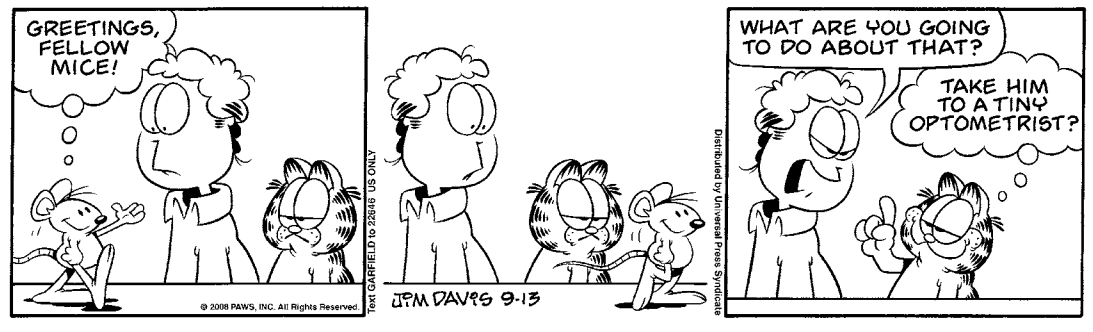
Garfield®

By Jim Davis


GREETINGS, FELLOW MICE!
JIM DAVIS 9-13
WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO ABOUT THAT?
TAKE HIM TO A TINY OPTOMETRIST?
Text GARFIELD to 22646 US ONLY
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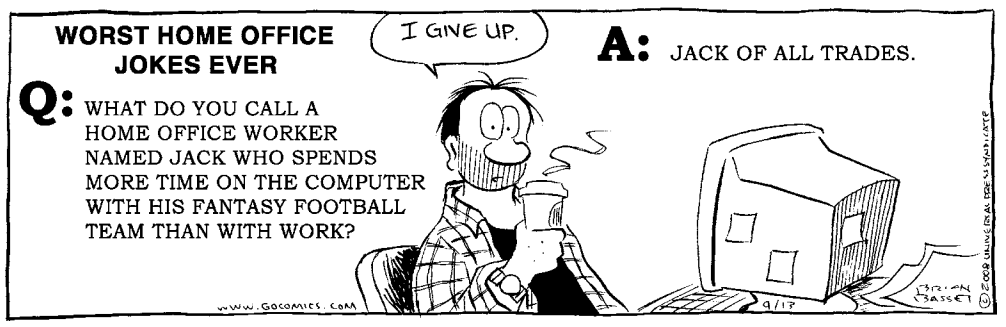
Adam@home

By Bryan Basset


WORST HOME OFFICE JOKES EVER
Q: WHAT DO YOU CALL A HOME OFFICE WORKER NAMED JACK WHO SPENDS MORE TIME ON THE COMPUTER WITH HIS FANTASY FOOTBALL TEAM THAN WITH WORK?
I GIVE UP.
A: JACK OF ALL TRADES.
www.Gocomics.com
9/17

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy

NOT YOU AGAIN.
Hi, OFFICER.
DIDN'T I TELL YOU LAST TIME THAT I NEVER WANT TO SEE YOU SPEEDING DOWN THIS ROAD AGAIN?
YEAH. SO I'M SURPRISED YOU KEEP COMING THIS WAY.
9-13-08 © Glenn McCoy/Dist. by Universal Press Syndicate

CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

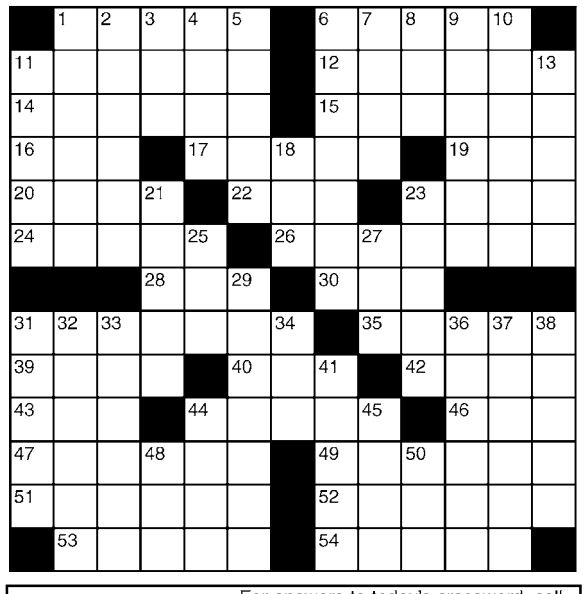
ACROSS
1 Ballroom dance
6 Transfer
11 Pretext
12 George Washington, often
14 Dawn
15 Man's hat
16 GIs' entertainment grp.
17 Dish
19 N.E. school
20 Line of fashion?
22 Caustic solution
23 Heart of the matter
24 Glitch
26 Art lover (Var.)
28 Evening hour, on a sundial
30 Teeter-totter quorum
31 Appoints as a duty
35 Zero
39 Info measure
40 Tucker's partner
42 Place
43 Singer DiFranco
44 Winter warmer
46 Talk on and on
47 State of Mexico
49 Sweater material
51 More nervous
52 Julia of "The Bourne Ultimatum"
53 Did a cobbler's job
54 Carreras or Domingo

DOWN
1 Reveille, e.g.
2 Commotion
3 Cattle call?
4 Baby's after-dinner remark?
5 In any way
6 Most adroit
7 Duel tool
8 Boston entree
9 Personal unrest
10 Orpheus, for one
11 Reason
13 Photo finish
18 Sailor's assent
21 Cineplex choice
23 Grave-robber
25 Predetermine the outcome
27 Airline letters
29 Boat motor type
31 Lower
32 Churchly councils
33 "Sophie's Choice" character
34 [As written]
36 Professional escort
37 Audience member
38 Brass instruments
41 Brag
44 Great Lakes tribe
45 Initial chip
48 Lubricate
50 Martini ingredient

Solution time: 27 mins.

H	A	W	K	S	■	E	B	B	■	M	P	G
A	V	A	I	L	■	S	I	R	■	Y	E	A
D	E	L	T	A	■	C	L	O	O	N	E	Y
■	■	L	E	N	O	R	E	■	S	A	V	E
E	P	A	■	T	A	O	■	U	S	H	E	R
L	A	C	K	■	S	W	A	M	I	■	■	■
F	R	E	E	Z	E	■	B	A	F	F	L	E
■	■	■	R	I	S	O	N	■	Y	O	U	R
S	T	O	M	P	■	R	E	F	■	R	C	A
M	I	N	I	■	G	A	R	A	G	E	■	■
E	A	S	T	M	A	N	■	T	I	M	E	D
A	R	E	■	E	G	G	■	A	G	A	T	E
R	A	T	■	R	A	E	■	L	A	N	C	E

Yesterday's answer 9-13



STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955**! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Ben Savage, 28; Fiona Apple, 31; Jean Smart, 57; Jacqueline Bisset, 64

Happy Birthday: Your actions will grab people's attention, not your ongoing talk about it. Stand up and be counted if you want to be in the game of life. You are imaginative, creative and can make a difference. Open up to more people who can offer you a different view of life and how you can live it. Strive for more than just maintaining. Your numbers are 6, 15, 19, 21, 27, 35, 38

ARIES (*March 21-April 19*): If you overdo, overindulge or make promises you don't keep, you'll face opposition. A partnership will be good for you as long as you communicate openly. Don't set your goals too high or too low. Balance is important. ✪✪✪

TAURUS (*April 20-May 20*): Don't feel obligated to do things that don't sit right with you. You can offer suggestions but hold back if it's a cash donation or your time that is being requested. Your time is much better spent helping the ones you love. ✪✪✪✪

GEMINI (*May 21-June 20*): Nip any emotional situations quickly to avoid interference with your plans, your productivity and your future. Love is mounting but involvement with someone who can alter your current professional position is a mistake. ✪✪

CANCER (*June 21-July 22*): Someone you want to trust may let you down. Emotional turmoil will leave you feeling uncertain about your next move. Altering house rules or changing the dynamics of the pecking order will help you out. ✪✪✪

LEO (*July 23-Aug. 22*): An idea you have will turn into a moneymaker. You will gain interest and suggestions from your friends and family. Allow for a romantic encounter that will make both your partner's and your head spin. ✪✪✪

VIRGO (*Aug. 23-Sept. 22*): You'll accomplish the most if you get together with people who have the same interest or intent as you. Networking or collaborating with someone you meet through an event you attend will lead to a long-lasting friendship. ✪✪✪

LIBRA (*Sept. 23-Oct. 22*): Socializing will put you in the spotlight, allowing you to show everyone what you have to offer personally and professionally. Don't be shy when you have an opportunity to drum up potential business as well as a new friendship. ✪✪✪✪

SCORPIO (*Oct. 23-Nov. 21*): Don't get into deep discussions with someone you love. You won't win and you are likely to back yourself into a corner that may force issues you don't want to deal with. Instead, get out with friends or get involved in a cause. ✪✪

SAGITTARIUS (*Nov. 22-Dec. 21*): Don't overlook something or someone because you are caught up in a moment with a person who intrigues you. Chances are excellent you are dealing with someone who is as good a talker as you. Don't believe everything you hear or jump to conclusions. ✪✪✪✪

CAPRICORN (*Dec. 22-Jan. 19*): Choose your battles carefully. You can just as easily get ahead as fall behind, depending on what you do or say. Make a promise that will lure a strong group of supporters to your side. Rid yourself of negative influences. ✪✪✪✪

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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AQUARIUS (*Jan. 20-Feb. 18*): If you care about someone, offer him or her something. Make a commitment to yourself to be and do the best you can. A new outlook regarding vocation, your home and where you see yourself heading is evident. ✪✪✪

PISCES (*Feb. 19-March 20*): Erratic behavior will cause emotional problems. Trying to push someone to make a decision will not pan out. Listen to reason when you are offered sound advice. A partner will add balance to your plans. ✪✪✪

Birthday Baby: You are solid, sensitive and strive for knowledge and acceptance. You are forceful, determined and will not give in to ultimatums.

Eugenia's Web sites: ***astroadvice.com*** *for fun,* ***eugenialast.com*** *for confidential consultations*

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

	6	3		9				
		4						3
			2				4	6
						6		
8				7				1
		5						
5	3				2			
2						9		
				8		1	7	

Difficulty Level ★★★★ 9/13

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer

8	7	4	5	2	3	6	1	9
2	1	9	6	7	4	5	8	3
6	5	3	9	1	8	4	2	7
5	4	1	8	9	2	3	7	6
3	2	6	1	4	7	9	5	8
7	9	8	3	5	6	2	4	1
1	3	7	2	6	5	8	9	4
9	6	2	4	8	1	7	3	5
4	8	5	7	3	9	1	6	2

Difficulty Level ★★★★ 9/12

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WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and **CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD.** The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

ON-STAR SERVICE **Solution: 5 letters**

E	D	D	S	N	A	L	P	B	U	T	T	O	N	S
D	N	L	E	T	L	S	A	N	E	W	S	I	O	E
I	I	I	L	T	T	I	L	N	S	E	E	N	I	R
R	F	T	G	A	E	O	V	S	G	C	O	T	T	V
N	G	N	T	N	C	C	E	E	N	I	R	E	A	I
O	T	U	R	K	E	R	T	E	T	V	S	R	G	C
I	S	O	I	E	D	A	I	A	V	E	D	N	I	E
T	N	C	W	D	V	N	C	E	A	D	E	E	V	B
C	O	C	A	I	E	I	H	C	Q	(K)	E	T	A	I
E	I	A	T	V	N	I	R	C	I	U	(N)	L	N	R
T	T	C	N	U	C	G	C	D	R	D	I	(I)	K	C
O	A	O	M	L	I	G	H	T	S	A	E	P	(L)	S
R	C	M	E	S	S	A	G	E	T	K	E	N	A	B
P	O	S	I	T	I	O	N	E	L	L	O	S	T	U
C	L	A	T	I	G	I	D	R	E	P	O	R	T	S

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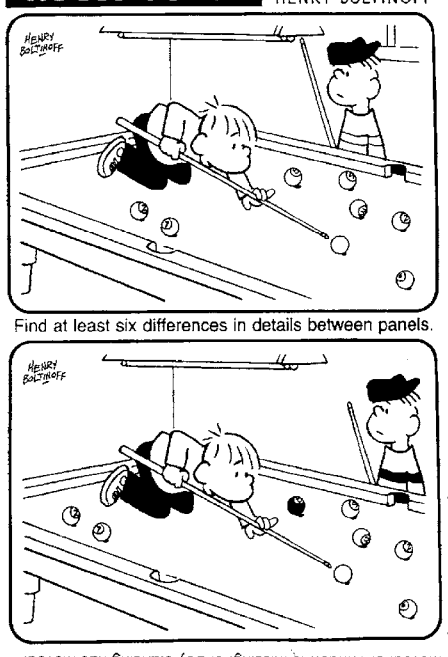
Accident, Account, Activate, Address, Buttons, Call, Communication, Convenience, Detail, Detect, Device, Digital, Driver, Engine, Equip, Find, Guide, Help, Internet, Lights, Link, Live, Location, Lost, Message, Navigation, Needs, News, Plans, Position, Protection, Reports, Ride, Search, Service, Signal, Status, Subscribe, Talk, Towing, Unlock, Vehicles

Yesterday's Answer: Caesars

We listened to your requests! **TREASURY** #6 is the first-ever Wonderword book containing only 20 x 20 puzzles, with 75 of these large puzzles. To order, send check or money order for $10.95 each plus $3.25 p&h ($14.20 total each. U.S. funds only) for the first volume. $1.50 p&h for each additional volume, to Wonderword, Universal Press Syndicate, 4520 Main St., Kansas City, Mo. 64111 or call toll-free 1-800-255-6734, ext. 6588. Order online at upuzzles.com.

HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.

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Differences: 1. Eight ball is black. 2. Boy's shirt stripe is black. 3. Boy's cue stick is shorter. 4. Balls #2 and #7 have moved. 5. Window is missing. 6. Boy standing has moved.

Wishing Well®

3	5	4	2	4	7	8	2	7	2	4	6	3
L	A	B	J	E	Y	W	O	O	Y	D	Y	I
2	6	5	6	2	5	4	7	5	7	2	4	6
F	O	M	U	O	E	I	U	S	A	R	P	A
5	2	3	8	2	7	6	2	7	5	3	2	5
S	P	F	A	A	R	R	S	E	C	E	T	L
4	6	4	7	3	6	4	5	8	4	5	7	2
L	E	O	A	I	C	M	E	Y	A	A	D	A
8	3	4	2	7	6	8	2	8	6	4	7	3
O	S	T	C	O	H	U	T	T	E	I	R	E
6	4	6	7	3	2	5	2	3	7	2	6	3
R	C	I	E	N	I	R	O	R	D	N	S	I
5	6	8	6	3	6	8	3	8	3	8	3	8
S	H	I	E	C	D	D	H	E	E	A	D	S

HERE IS A PLEASANT LITTLE GAME that will give you a message every day. It's a numerical puzzle designed to spell out your fortune. Count the letters in your first name. If the number of letters is 6 or more, subtract 4. If the number is less than 6, add 3. The result is your key number. Start at the upper left-hand corner and check one of your key numbers, left to right. Then read the message the letters under the checked figures give you.

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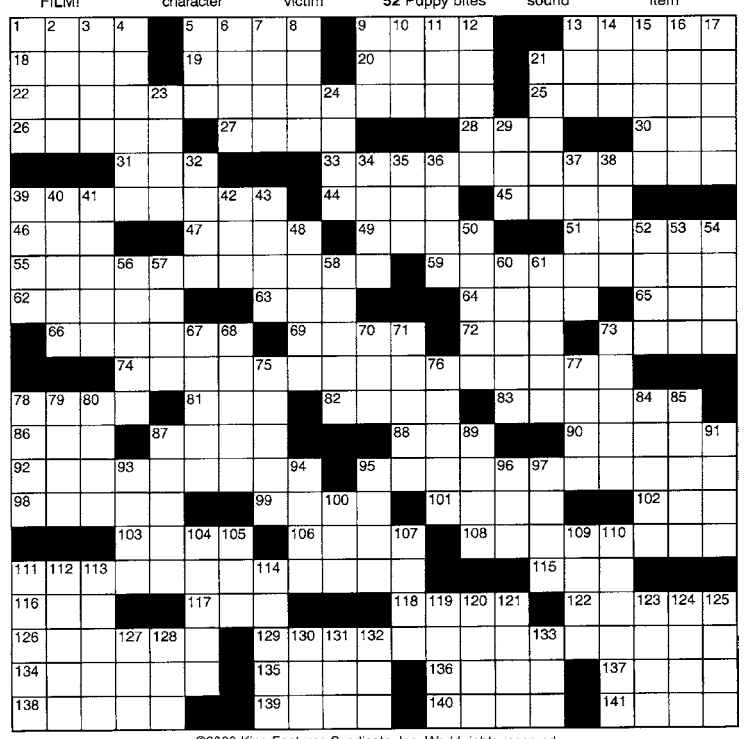
Super Crossword

HOLLYWOOD HEADLINE

ACROSS
1 Hirt hit
5 Kudrow or Hartman
9 Lucas character
13 Gullible one
18 Rueful cry
19 Certain Semite
20 Imported cheese
21 Extragalactic object
22 DIRECTOR PICKS KAPLAN TO PLAY LINCOLN!
25 Author Le Guin
26 Prepare to propose
27 Valueless
28 Hum bug?
30 ABA member
31 Fix a fight
33 "WHEEL" RATINGS PLUNGE!
39 More meager
44 "Graf —"
45 Navigation hazard
46 Film, for short
47 Castilian custard
49 Commoner
51 Arm bones
55 CARNEY IN NEW FILM!
59 Vaudeville staple
62 Disdain
63 Unduly
64 "— -Ca-Dabra" ('74 song)
65 JFK Library architect
66 Beethoven symphony
69 Velvety plant
72 Pro-gun grp.
73 Little helper?
74 SANDLER GOES ON TOUR!
78 Ever's partner
81 Slugger's stat
82 Attempt
83 Sulky
86 Moon crawler
87 "— a Song Go . . ."
88 TV's "The — Patrol"
90 Prelim
92 Plumbing tool
95 AFFLECK WINS SECOND OSCAR!
98 Ho hi
99 — Kong
101 Roof part
102 "Holy cow!"
103 "Casablanca" character
106 Crucifix
108 Agitated
111 HAGMAN PLANS NUPTIALS!
115 Piggy
116 Khan opener?
117 Castilian cry
118 Head set?
122 Croc's kin
126 Mideastern mall?
129 PAQUIN GETS STARRING ROLE!
134 In public
135 Row
136 General Bradley
137 Final
138 Alarm button
139 Raucous noise
140 — Hari
141 Actress Merrill

DOWN
1 Item in a trunk
2 Economist Greenspan
3 Ming thing
4 Behind a windjammer
5 Fall behind
6 OPEC member
7 "Elephant Boy" star
8 Cain's victim
9 "Of course!"
10 Harem room
11 Apply gently
12 Petite parasite
13 Mongrel
14 Owns
15 Nothing special
16 Mediterranean island
17 Brooklyn school
21 Suppress
23 Skirt feature
24 Skiers' mecca
29 Wee one
32 Present
34 Datebook abbr.
35 — Aviv
36 Charges
37 "The March King"
38 Fedora fabric
39 Mineral springs
40 She brought out the beast in men
41 Part owner?
42 Urban transport
43 Absorbed
48 Ruth's mother-in-law
50 Mont —
52 Puppy bites
53 Fighter pilots
54 "SNL" bit
56 Haunted-house sound
57 Oklahoma city
58 Alex Haley book
60 Pianist Chasins
61 Bandleader Perez
67 Bergonzi or Ponti
68 "Waves of grain" color
70 Fast flier
71 Bright
73 Between three
75 Bum a ride
76 Humble
77 Soprano's showcase
78 Jessica of "Dark Angel"
79 Comic Carter
80 Melville novel
84 Play ground?
85 Great Lake natives
87 Po land
89 It'll give you a lift
91 Change for a five
93 Helicopter sound
94 Circle dance
95 Sikorsky or Stravinsky
96 First offender
97 Jay's house
100 Negative correlative
104 It may be tall
105 Internet acronym
107 Colors
109 Demetrius' duds
110 Inclined
111 Sweat and slave
112 Dumbstruck
113 Brings down the house
114 Thought-provoking
119 Particle
120 Maffia or Downey
121 Petty clash?
123 Prepare to fly
124 — even keel
125 Sita's husband
127 Chemical suffix
128 PC key
130 Long or Peeples
131 Unused
132 Dadaism founder
133 Lingerie item



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Trivia test

by Fifi Rodriguez

1. LANGUAGE: How else might you describe a "glabrous" creature?
2. MUSIC: Who wrote the 1969 hit "In the Year 2525"?
3. LITERATURE: In which of Shakespeare's plays does the character of Titania appear?
4. GOVERNMENT: What are the five rights guaranteed in the First Amendment of the U.S. Constitution?
5. GEOGRAPHY: Mexico is divided into how many states?
6. ENTERTAINMENT: Where is the Dollywood (Dolly Parton) theme park located?
7. MEDICAL: How is dengue fever transmitted in tropical climates?
8. HISTORY: Which WWII general's nickname was "The Desert Fox"?
9. GENERAL KNOWLEDGE: Where does the phrase "eat, drink and be merry" come from?
10. INVENTIONS: Who invented the bathyscaphe, used for underwater exploration?

Answers

1. Hairless or smooth
2. Denny Zager and Rick Evans
3. "A Midsummer Night's Dream"
4. Speech, religion, press, peaceful assembly and the right to petition government for redress of grievances.
5. 31
6. Pigeon Forge, Tenn.
7. Mosquitoes
8. German Field Marshal Erwin Rommel
9. The Bible, Ecclesiastes
10. Auguste Piccard and his son Jacques

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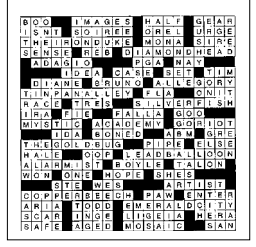
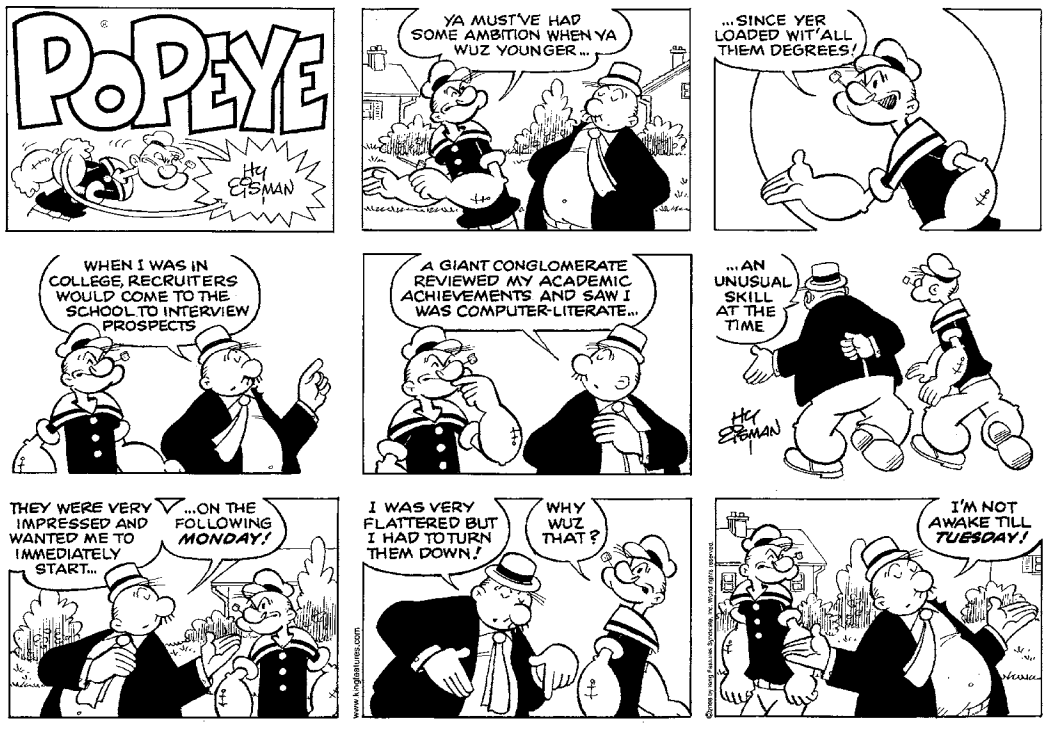
Saturday's Answers




POPEYE
HEY EISMAN
YA MUST'VE HAD SOME AMBITION WHEN YA WUZ YOUNGER...
...SINCE YER LOADED WIT'ALL THEM DEGREES!
WHEN I WAS IN COLLEGE, RECRUITERS WOULD COME TO THE SCHOOL TO INTERVIEW PROSPECTS
A GIANT CONGLOMERATE REVIEWED MY ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENTS AND SAW I WAS COMPUTER-LITERATE...
...AN UNUSUAL SKILL AT THE TIME
HEY EISMAN
THEY WERE VERY IMPRESSED AND WANTED ME TO IMMEDIATELY START...
...ON THE FOLLOWING MONDAY!
I WAS VERY FLATTERED BUT I HAD TO TURN THEM DOWN!
WHY WUZ THAT?
I'M NOT AWAKE TILL TUESDAY!
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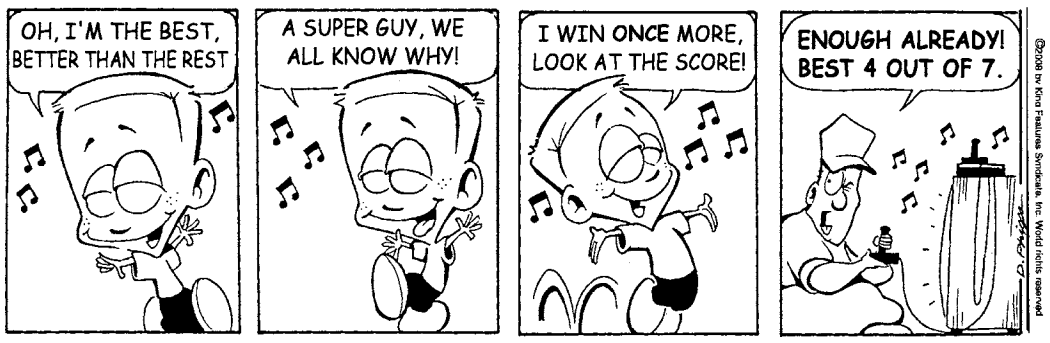
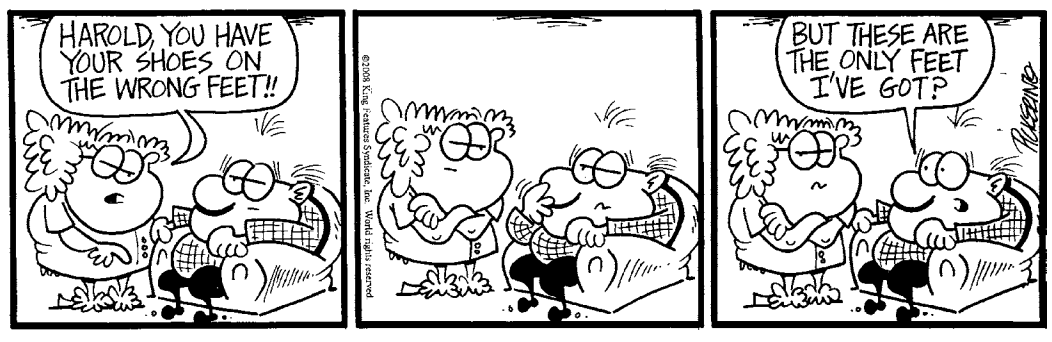
Amber Waves by Dave T. Phipps



The Spats by Jeff Pickering



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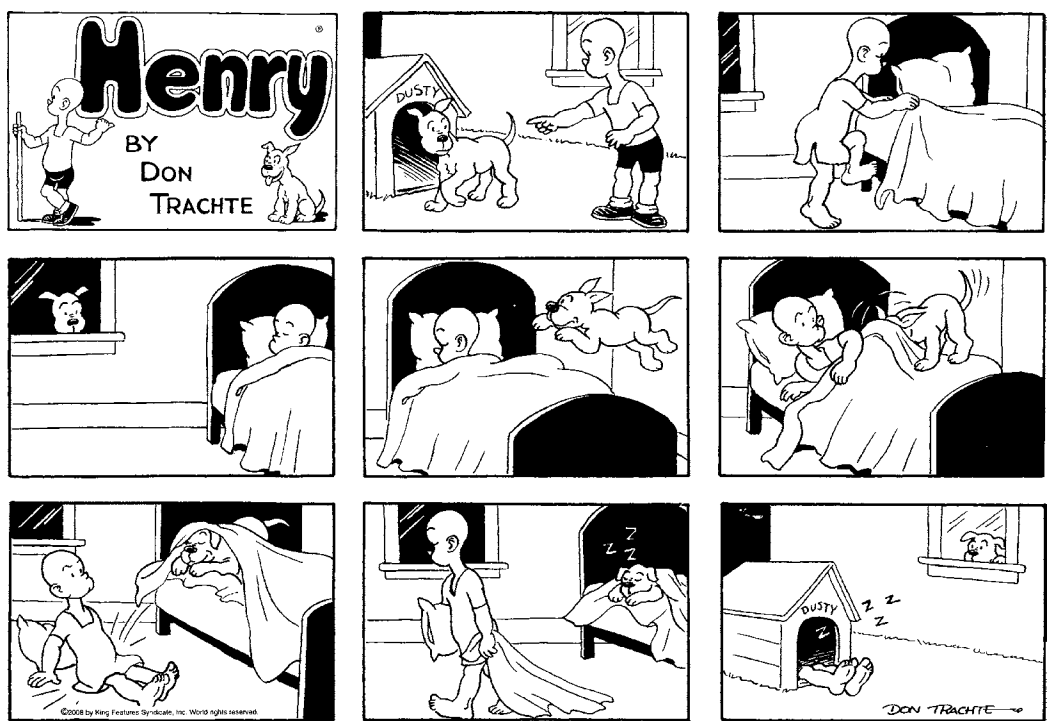
HELPING TO EDUCATE THE PUBLIC ABOUT DANGEROUS STORM CONDITIONS BEFORE THEY HAPPEN WILL SAVE MANY LIVES— THANK YOU!
JACK ELROD



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- *Saipan Tribune:* All ads placed Friday before 12 noon will come out Saturday issue and anything placed thereafter will be published on either Sunday or Monday issues.

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Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to date of publication.

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Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met. No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

CHECK YOUR ADS

Saipan Tribune will not be responsible for errors after the first day of publication. Errors should be called in before noon of the issue date. *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

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All advertising in the *Saipan Tribune* are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

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- Supporting the Executive Director, Board of Directors, committees, and members

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Salary commensurate with experience. Application deadline is **Friday, September 19, 2008**. Application form available at the Saipan Chamber of Commerce office, Family Building, Garapan Street, Garapan, or online at www.saipanchamber.com.

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08-045	Academic Librarian	Until Filled
08-048	Instructor, Health & PE	Until Filled
08-051	Instructor, Nursing (2 positions)	Until Filled
08-052	Instructor, Mathematics	Until Filled
08-057	Accountant (Cashier)	9/16/08
08-058	Procurement Manager	9/17/08
08-059	Academic Records Specialist	9/18/08
08-060	Director of Institutional Advancement	9/18/08
08-061	Database Administrator	9/18/08
08-062	Enrollment Manager	9/18/08
08-063	Animal Scientist/Pasture Agronomist	9/20/08

If you would like to learn more about a position and/or the Northern Marianas College, please visit our website at http://www.nmcnet.edu w.nnicnet.edu or contact the Human Resources Office at (670) 234-5498 ext. 1017 or e-mail teresab@nmcnet.edu.

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Find today's solution in this section

K-Rod ties saves record in win over Mariners

ANAHEIM, Calif. (AP)—Francisco Rodriguez got the final three outs for his 57th save to tie Bobby Thigpen's major league record, and the Los Angeles Angels beat the Seattle Mariners 7-4 on Thursday night.

Thigpen set the record in 1990 with the Chicago White Sox.

The Angels clinched the AL West title on Wednesday.

Rodriguez replaced Scot Shields with runners on first and second and no outs. He got Ichiro Suzuki to ground into a double play, gave up an RBI single to Jeremy Reed and a single to Adrian Beltre before finally ending it on Raul Ibanez's broken-bat grounder to first.

Rodriguez has blown six saves, one of those in his seven chances against the Mariners.

The save was the 203rd of the 26-year-old's career. He made his debut in September 2002 and became a sensation with his postseason performance.

The right-hander from Venezuela went 5-1 that October to help the Angels win their only World Series title, in the process becoming the youngest pitcher ever to win a World Series game.

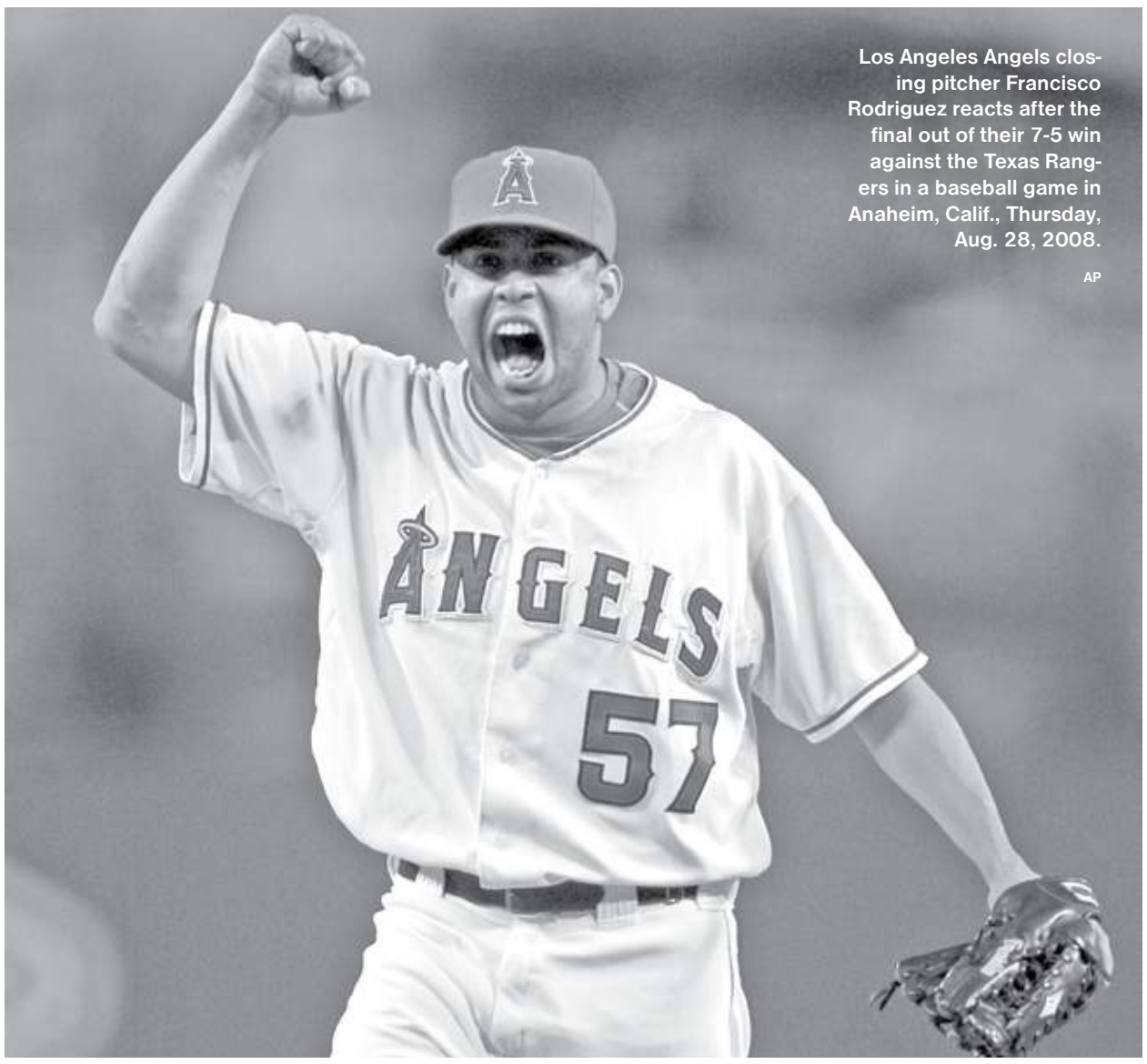
Rodriguez may be pitching his final season for the Angels. He has said he wants to test the free agent market after this season, although both he and the Angels haven't ruled out a chance he will return.

Rodriguez ran toward first on Ibanez's grounder, but first baseman Kendry Morales tagged the bag. Rodriguez lifted both arms, jumped and did a little spin in joy.

Jered Weaver had blanked Seattle on three hits over his six innings, and Garret Anderson drove in three runs before Rodriguez came on to a standing ovation after the Mariners put the game into a save situation.

Weaver (11-10) had missed more than a week after cutting two fingers in a dugout accident on Sept. 2. He struck out three and walked three.

The Angels were the first team this season to clinch a division title, winning the West for the fourth time in five years. They are still playing for home-field advantage through the AL playoffs, and improved their major league-best record to 89-57.



Los Angeles Angels closing pitcher Francisco Rodriguez reacts after the final out of their 7-5 win against the Texas Rangers in a baseball game in Anaheim, Calif., Thursday, Aug. 28, 2008.

AP

Blue Jays 6, White Sox 4

In Chicago, Shaun Marcum pitched effectively for 7 1-3 innings and Toronto broke a scoreless tie with six runs in the eighth for its 11th win in 12 games.

Chicago, which has lost four of five, remained one game ahead of Minnesota in the AL Central. The Twins lost to Kansas City 3-2.

Toronto moved 6 1/2 games behind idle Boston in the AL wild card.

Marcum (9-6) took a three-hit shutout into the eighth and allowed five hits and two runs.

Jim Thome hit his 538th homer off reliever Scott Downs in the eighth as Chicago rallied to 6-4. Toronto closer B.J. Ryan earned his 29th save by striking out the side in the ninth.

One night after their 10-game winning streak was snapped, the Blue Jays drove White Sox starter Gavin Floyd (15-7) out in the eighth, collecting seven hits in the inning.

Royals 3, Twins 2, 10 innings

In Minneapolis, David DeJesus had the game-winning single in the 10th inning for Kansas City.

Minnesota wasted eight impressive innings by Francisco Liriano, his longest start since July 28, 2006. It matched the second-longest outing of his career.

The Twins remained one game behind first-place Chicago in the AL Central.

Matt Guerrier (6-8) got one out in the 10th before surrendering two straight singles and leaving runners at the corners for Dennys Reyes.

DeJesus hit his first pitch into left field for the lead, giving Ramon Ramirez (3-2) the victory after a perfect ninth. Joakim Soria worked the 10th for his 36th save.

Orioles 6, Indians 3

In Baltimore, Nick Markakis had two hits and Melvin Mora, sidelined since Aug. 29 with a strained left hamstring, returned for Baltimore with a two-run double that gave him 99 RBIs.

The Orioles earned a split of the four-game series, which began with Baltimore mired in an eight-game losing streak.

Baltimore went ahead 5-3 with a two-run fifth. Markakis, who earlier snapped an 0-for-13 skid, singled and took third on a double by Aubrey Huff. Ramon Hernandez drove in a run with a groundout and Asdrubal Cabrera misplayed a two-out grounder to short, allowing Huff to score.

Lance Cormier (3-3) pitched three innings of one-hit relief and rookie Jim Miller worked the ninth for his first major league save.

Rangers 6, Athletics 1

In Oakland, California, Hank Blalock homered, and Chris Davis and Joaquin Arias both drove in two runs for Texas.

Dustin Nippert (3-4) matched his career high with seven strikeouts in five innings, allowing four hits and one run in his fourth start of 2008.

Davis hit a two-run double in the third after Arias put the Rangers ahead with a two-run single in the second against Dallas Braden (5-4).

Josh Hamilton, who left after the seventh with a bruised right foot, had three hits for the Rangers and is 16-for-31 over his last nine games.

Cubs 3, Cardinals 2

In St. Louis, Rich Harden worked six solid innings and Kerry Wood got Albert Pujols to pop up with two men on for the final out in Chicago's 3-2 victory over St. Louis on Thursday night.

Ryan Theriot, Derrek Lee and Mike Fontenot had RBIs for the Cubs, who lead Milwaukee in the NL Central by 5 1/2 games with 16 to play. The Cardinals remained 4 1/2 games behind the Brewers for the NL wild card.

Pujols drove in his 100th run with a sixth-inning double, becoming only the third player in major league history to reach the milestone in his first eight seasons. Al Simmons did it his first 11 seasons, and Ted Williams also did it his first eight.

Harden (5-1) allowed two runs and five hits in his first appearance since working five innings Aug. 29 against Philadelphia and then skipping a turn due to arm discomfort.

Wood, who entered the game with two losses and a blown save in his previous three appearances, worked around two ninth-inning hits.

Harden limited the Cardinals to three singles before the sixth, when Pujols' RBI double and a run-scoring single by Lopez cut the deficit to a run.

Phillies 6, Brewers 3

In Philadelphia, Ryan Howard hit his major league-leading 43rd homer and Jamie Moyer pitched 5 2-3 effective innings for Philadelphia.

The Phillies pulled within three games of the NL East-leading Mets and the wild card-leading Brewers by roughing up Ben Sheets (13-8).

Prince Fielder hit his first homer since Aug. 13, but slumping Milwaukee lost for the eighth time in 11 games.

Moyer (14-7) allowed three runs and four hits, improving to 7-1 in his last 13 starts. He was pitching on three days' rest for the first time since 2004.

He left after Fielder's two-run shot made it 4-3. Ryan Madson pitched two innings, Chad Durbin retired the only batter he faced with two on in the eighth and Brad Lidge finished for his 36th save in as many chances.

Sheets, who entered with a 20-inning scoreless streak, allowed five runs and nine hits in six innings.

Astros 6, Pirates 0

In Houston, Roy Oswalt threw a three-hitter for his second straight complete-game shutout and set a Houston record for consecutive scoreless innings.

Houston has won 14 of 15 to pull within three games of NL wild card-leading Milwaukee, which lost 6-3 at Philadelphia, but it's uncertain when the Astros will play again. The first two games of their weekend series against Chicago were postponed and Sunday's matchup could be next with Hurricane Ike closing in on Texas.

Oswalt (15-9), who had two RBIs, hasn't allowed a run in 32 1-3 innings, passing the record of 31 set by J.R. Richard in 1980. He needed only 90 pitches to finish his sixth career shutout and 15th complete game.

Oswalt retired 20 in a row after Luis Rivas' one-out single in the first inning on his way to winning for the ninth time in 10 decisions.

The Astros have won six straight and their 36-16 record since the All-Star break is the best mark in the majors.

Braves 8, Rockies 4

In Atlanta, Yunel Escobar's three-run homer capped a five-run sixth inning for Atlanta, which completed a three-game sweep.

The Rockies, who have lost five straight, fell 8 1/2 games behind Los Angeles in the NL West.

Braves rookie Jair Jurrjens (13-9) set a career high with 10 strikeouts, allowing eight hits and four runs in six innings.

Escobar had three hits, including his 10th homer, and a walk.

Colorado starter Ubaldo Jimenez gave up five hits and three runs, two earned, in five innings. He struck out six but walked four. He left with a 4-3 lead, but the Braves scored five runs in the sixth off Glendon Rusch (5-5) and Matt Herges.

Padres 11, Giants 3

In San Diego, San Diego's Adrian Gonzalez homered twice and drove in four runs to set career highs with 31 homers and 103 RBIs.

Gonzalez, the Padres' only All-Star this season, joined Fred McGriff (1991-92) and Phil Nevin (2000-01) as the only players in franchise history with consecutive seasons with 30 homers and 100 RBIs.

Drew Macias homered for his first big league hit for San Diego and Matt Antonelli doubled for his first career RBI. The rookies finished with three hits apiece, and Macias drove in two runs.

Josh Geer (2-0) allowed nine hits and two runs in seven innings in his third big league start.

Gonzalez hit a three-run homer off Matt Cain (8-12) with no outs in a five-run first. He homered off Pat Misch leading off the seventh.

NBA BRIEFS

Magic's Pat Garrity retires from NBA

ORLANDO, Fla. (AP)—Orlando Magic forward Pat Garrity is retiring from the NBA. Garrity played 10 pro seasons—nine with the Magic—after spending his rookie year with the Phoenix Suns. He appeared in 513 games for Orlando, second most in franchise history. The 32-year-old player from Notre Dame was a free agent after last season. Garrity averaged 7.3 points in 20 minutes a game. He led Orlando in 3-point shooting from 1999 to 2003.

Blazers' Frye has ankle surgery

PORTLAND, Ore. (AP)—Portland Trail Blazers forward Channing Frye will likely miss the start of the regular season after having surgery to remove bone spurs from his left ankle. The arthroscopic surgery was performed Monday in Southern California, and the team said he is expected to miss 8-to-10 weeks. The Trail Blazers open their season Oct. 28. The 6-foot-11 Frye averaged 6.8 points in 78 games last season. He's expected to again be a key reserve, backing up power forward LaMarcus Aldridge. The Knicks selected Frye with the eighth pick of the 2005 draft. He was sent to the Trail Blazers two years later as part of the Zach Randolph deal. Forward Ike Diogu, the ninth pick of the 2005 draft, was acquired by the Trail Blazers this summer, and could see additional time in Frye's absence.

Titans' Young says he never wavered about football

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP)—Titans quarterback Vince Young insists he never wavered in his commitment to football. All that concern over his mental state? He says he was upset as he dealt with his first serious injury, and he didn't realize he had to tell his mother where he was going anymore. Then the media went overboard.

Young spoke publicly Thursday for the first time since Titans coach Jeff Fisher called police for help in locating the quarterback Monday night because of concerns over his emotional well-being. His mother, Felicia Young, also told a local newspaper that the quarterback had indicated he didn't want to play football anymore because of all the negativity he faced.

"I was never depressed," Young said.

He took questions from reporters for 16 minutes after watching his teammates practice. His message? Don't question his commitment.

"Football, this is my life. This is my dream. All I did all these years growing up to get to this point and never had an injury like this before in my life," he said.

"It's a hard time because I'm a competitor, and I definitely want to be out on the football field with my teammates."

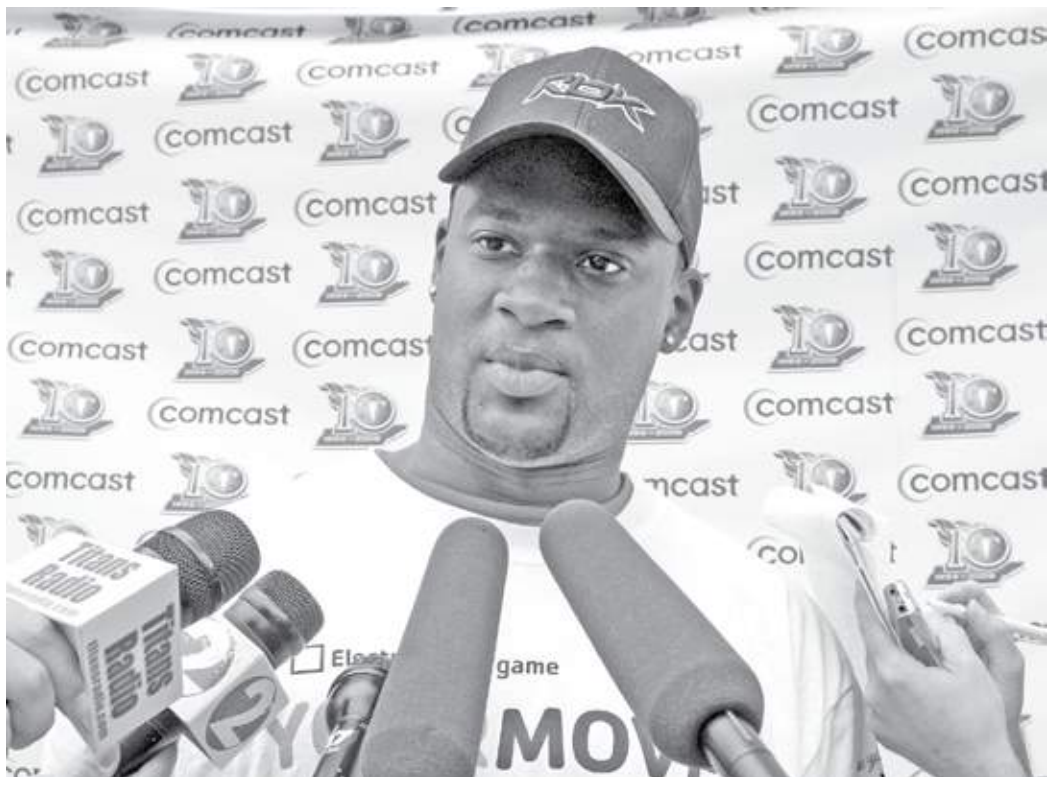
Questions about his mental state and attitude started Sunday when the third-year quarterback was booed heavily by fans upset at his second interception, and he appeared as if he didn't want to return to the game. Fisher pulled his headset off and talked to him before the quarterback joined the rest of the offense.

Four plays later, Young sprained his left medial collateral ligament when Jaguars linebacker Daryl Smith crashed into his left knee.

Young didn't go to the Titans' headquarters Monday, and Fisher went to his quarterback's house. The Titans also sent a psychologist and another team official to talk with Young. He was described as being emotionally down. Young said Thursday that lasted half a day and he was upset over his two interceptions.

Fisher told Young to go take the MRI exam needed to determine the extent of the damage to his knee. Young didn't go. But with so many people at his house, Young said, he needed space to think.

"Let the cloud go away for a minute, and that's what I did. I left. My mom seen me; she thought I wasn't in my right mind. At the same time, I was watching the game, watching Aaron Rodgers do his things ... eating some hot wings," Young said.



AP

Tennessee Titans quarterback Vince Young answers questions at the NFL football team's training facility Thursday, Sept. 11, 2008, in Nashville, Tenn.

The quarterback said he didn't realize he had to tell his mother where he was going.

"Even though you're paying your own bills at your own house, you still got to tell your mama where you are going now. So I understand where my mama's coming from. She wanted to know where I'm going because I didn't take my cell phone because so many people were calling me and making sure I'm all right," he said.

Those comments from his mother about his not wanting to play? Young blamed the media.

"She know I don't want to leave football. She knows I love this game. She's the one that put me in this game. I'm here. I'm ready to play, but right now I'm rehabbing," he said.

Young didn't talk about the police, including crisis negotiators, waiting for him at the Titans' headquarters when he arrived to talk with Fisher nor what they discussed. He thanked the franchise for being behind him.

As far as his injured knee, Young said only that it is sore and he is working hard to heal up. He won't rush back too soon for fear of aggravating the injury.

The Titans have listed him as out for Sunday's game at Cincinnati and have given no timetable for how long he might be sidelined. Young walked stiffly with a black wrap around his knee and promised he is arriving for treatment around 6:30 a.m.

He missed one game in 2007 with a strained quadriceps muscle, came back a week later and wasn't the same the rest of the season. Fisher said Young is doing fine.

"First and foremost is getting his knee back, taking care of his treatment and getting his mind back in football," the coach said.

Helping Young do that have been his mentor, Steve McNair, and quarterbacks like Donovan McNabb. Young said he also will sit down with teammate Kerry Collins for advice.

All those boos? The right of fans paying hard-earned money to watch, part of the territory of being an NFL quarterback.

Young plans to answer his critics once he's back on the field.

"If I ever change and turn my back on this game or turn my back on anything like that, I'm letting down a whole lot of people," he said. "And I definitely don't want to do that because they love me for what I'm doing, and I love doing it for them."

Thousands fill arena for Haskins memorial

EL PASO, Texas (AP)—Thousands of people filled the Don Haskins Center on Thursday night to remember the basketball coach in a memorial service that took on the atmosphere of a college game.

The arena's television screens showed a 1997 roast of Haskins, known to the basketball world as "The Bear" and to fans and players as simply "Coach," while a spotlight shone on the 1966 NCAA national championship banner.

The scoreboard was lit up with the final score of that game—Texas Western College, 72, Kentucky 65—as it was during a public viewing for Haskins on Tuesday.

Haskins died Sunday. He was 78.

The Texas-El Paso marching band was on hand and former referee Irv Brown even stood guard with a whistle to cut off speakers who went over their allotted time in a service that was expected to last three hours.

Former players, coaches and others praised Haskins for his dedication to his players and offered censored versions of stories of a coach known as much for his skill as his colorful language.

"Coach Haskins lived to be a winner not just in the Xs and Os," said Nevil Shed, one of Haskins' starters on the 1966 team. "And he instilled in us that on the court you had to do your best, but after all this basketball you have to be a winner in life. Each and every one of his players still has a good portion of Coach Haskins in them."

Shed, the first to get the foul whistle from Brown, recalled fondly that while there were times—mostly in the midst of seemingly endless practice—he hated Haskins he's a better man for having played for him.

"I can always say I thank God for my mother and father and I can say thank God for Don Haskins and all he did for me," Shed said.

AP

In this early 1980s file photo, Texas-El Paso coach Don Haskins, right, chats with New Mexico guard Phil Smith in Albuquerque, N.M. Haskins died Sunday, Sept. 7, 2008 at the age of 78.

Nolan Richardson, who played for Haskins during his first two years in El Paso and was a national champions as a coach at Arkansas, recalled seeing Haskins and his wife, Mary, arrive as a young coach in 1961. He said Haskins told him he couldn't "guard a telegraph pole" and suggested he stick to football.

"He was not political and you loved him for it," Richardson said. "What you saw was what you got. And I loved that so much. I tried to emulate that in my career. The championships we won (at Arkansas) with our kids, it all came from The Bear."

Before taking the podium Thursday, Richardson described Haskins as a "mentor and a good friend."

"You are talking about a crown jewel," Richardson said.

Richardson said while Haskins never acknowledged knowing what it meant for him to start to five black players in the 1966 championship game against an all-white Kentucky squad, he believes Haskins always knew what he was doing.

"He was a simple man with values," Richardson said. "Had he known the values he had maybe he wouldn't have been so good."

Countless friends and former players, including Tim Hardaway and Antonio Davis, filled the arena's floor Thursday.

Those who knew Haskins best said this week that he would have hated the spectacle of thousands of people paying tribute to him. But family friend Jim Paul said this was the one time they didn't give Haskins a vote.

CORRECTIONS

From Page 28

Tinian and Bank of Guam.

Tinian and BOG are also fighting for dear life, having dropped their opening assignments in the playoffs. Tinian lost to PTI via forfeit, while BOG suffered a heartbreaking one-point loss to the Department of Community and Cultural Affairs, 82-83.

The playoff match between Legislature and Corrections was a close battle with the former leading at the end of the first quarter, 20-17.

The father-and-son tandem of Ray and Ernest Duenas worked wonders for the Lawmakers as they combined for 16 of the Legislature's total points in the first period.

Ray continued to sizzle in the second canto, but Ernest went cold, giving Corrections a chance to grab the upperhand.

Walter Mendez and Gregorio Blas played beautiful music together for Corrections in the second period, drilling 10 and nine points, respectively, to give DOC a 47-40 halftime lead.

The pair of Mendez and Blas were still unstoppable in the second half, helping Corrections keep the driver's seat, 69-63, going into the final quarter.

The Lawmakers had a good start in the final period to tie the game and were looking to retake the lead, but a power outage prevented them from doing so.

Ray Duenas had scored 29 points to lead Legislature's recovery, while Ernest had added 22. Joel Punzalan had chipped in nine.

Mendez was pacing Corrections with 19 markers, while Blas and Peter Mendiola had contributed 17 and 10 points, respectively.

TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

MLB STANDINGS

AMERICAN LEAGUE

East Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Tampa Bay	87	57	.604	_
Boston	85	60	.586	2 1/2
Toronto	79	67	.541	9
New York	77	69	.527	11
Baltimore	65	80	.448	22 1/2

Central Division

Chicago	81	65	.555	_
Minnesota	80	66	.548	1
Cleveland	71	74	.490	9 1/2
Detroit	70	76	.479	11
Kansas City	62	83	.428	18 1/2

West Division

x-Los Angeles	89	57	.610	_
Texas	72	75	.490	17 1/2
Oakland	67	79	.459	22
Seattle	57	88	.393	31 1/2

NATIONAL LEAGUE

East Division

New York	82	63	.566	_
Philadelphia	80	67	.544	3
Florida	74	72	.507	8 1/2
Atlanta	65	82	.442	18
Washington	56	90	.384	26 1/2

Central Division

Chicago	88	58	.603	_
Milwaukee	83	64	.565	5 1/2
Houston	80	67	.544	8 1/2
St. Louis	78	68	.534	10
Cincinnati	66	80	.452	22
Pittsburgh	60	86	.411	28

West Division

Los Angeles	75	71	.514	_
Arizona	71	74	.490	3 1/2
Colorado	67	80	.456	8 1/2
San Francisco	65	81	.445	10
San Diego	57	90	.388	18 1/2

x-clinched division

Yesterday's Games

Kansas City 3, Minnesota 2, 10 innings
Baltimore 6, Cleveland 3
Toronto 6, Chicago White Sox 4
Texas 6, Oakland 1
L.A. Angels 7, Seattle 4
Philadelphia 6, Milwaukee 3
Atlanta 8, Colorado 4
Houston 6, Pittsburgh 0
Chicago Cubs 3, St. Louis 2
San Diego 11, San Francisco 3

By The Associated Press

Special start for a special season

By BRAD RUSZALA
SPECIAL TO SAIPAN TRIBUNE

In my best Al Michaels "Do you believe in miracles?" Yes, the Buffalo Bills found a way to circle the wagons in Orchard Park, N.Y., and beat the Seattle Seahawks to open the 2008-09 season with a win at home...just like I predicted.

Yeah, right.

Okay, so I went against my hometown team but I had to. Really! The Hawks were favored and the Bills were not exactly looking like an offensive powerhouse ready to deal with the birds from Grungeland.

Someway, somehow the boys from Buffalo whomped on Seattle to the tune of a 34-10 beatdown in front of the nearly 80,000 strong fan faithful.

At least I can still be happy about the win. I mean, one win is all it takes to get fans from Buffalo talking about the possibilities of a Super Bowl run.

Keep dreaming, Bills fans. I love ya, but it's not gonna happen anytime soon. As an experienced Buffalo Bills fan, I'll wait at least until Week 2 to pass judgment on their chances.

Speaking of insane, err, devoted fans, how long do you think the Cheeseheads took to forget about Brett Favre?

Brett the Jet looked good against Miami last week; albeit in a darker shade of green. The NFL's thee-time MVP led the Jets to a 20-14 win over the Dolphins, and the 64-year-old Favre looked plenty youthful doing so.

Did you see his desperation touchdown pass? It looked like he went into the huddle and told his receivers to "just get open." Funny thing is that it worked pretty much the same way he's been getting the job done for years.

You'd think the uberfans in Green Bay were howling out of their screen doors, mourning the loss of the future Hall of Famer.

They probably were. Well, at least until Monday Night Football when his replacement led to Packers to a 24-19 win over their bitter rivals from Minnesota.

Aaron Rodgers looked confident, poised, and ready for primetime when he ran out of the tunnel for the first time as a starter for Green Bay.

After years of waiting behind a legend and an off-season drama akin to wondering who shot J.R. Ewing, Rodgers emerged like a real pro. All of his struggles might have installed a little character in him.

While I'm sure the experience made him stronger, I don't think that Rodgers will be thanking Favre for his support anytime soon.

MILLER LITE PIGSKIN
PICKS OF THE WEEK
WEEK 2
WEEK 2
NFL
HUNTER
BLANCO
NABORS
SMITH
BIG MAHI
RUSZALA
GUARANTEED PICK OF THE WEEK
My Pick Of The Week has to go out to the Broncos over the Chargers. I know I might be going out on a wire on this one; however, Jay Cutler may be able to perform similar to last week, especially without the pressure of Shawne Merriman, who is not expected to play this week. I hope my fellow prognosticators (specifically John and Brad) don't fall asleep at the wheel this week. I came off a bit rusty on last week's picks; however, I am in their rear-view mirror getting ready to make that move.
Unlike my opponents with their cream puff/no brainer picks, I'll stick with the tough ones. For this week my pick goes to Denver by three. I know that San Diego suffered a loss last week and is looking to redeem itself but after seeing what Denver did to Oakland and the fact that there playing in Denver, I got to give this to the Broncos.
This week's Lock of The Week goes to dem Boys fom Dallas. T.O. is going to bring it this week and McNabb will be scrambling for his life. Bring on the Soft Taco Supremes!
My lock for the week has to be the Super Bowl champs, the Giants, just because! Well last week was opening day and I forgot to eat my Wheaties (I think we all know what Wheaties Canadians eat) before making my picks. Congrats to the rest of the pickers! Enjoy it now because winter is coming!
"My Guaranteed Pick Of The Week is New Orleans over Washington. The Saints looked VERY strong against Tampa Bay. Washington's game against the Giants made them look like high schoolers. The Skins don't have a running game. Reggie Bush is electrifying and he'll have a great game this week."
My GPOTW got changed at the last minute because Hurricane Ike is barrelling through the Gulf of Mexico with Montezuma's revenge. Now Texas is hosting two Monday Night Football contests this week, but only one hope team will win, and it won't be the squad in Houston. Lock it up and go with the Ravens for a sure win.

	HUNTER	BLANCO	NABORS	SMITH	BIG MAHI	RUSZALA
GB @ DET	GREEN BAY	GREEN BAY	GREEN BAY	GREEN BAY	GREEN BAY	GREEN BAY
CHI @ CAR	CAROLINA	CAROLINA	CAROLINA	CHICAGO	CHICAGO	CAROLINA
NYG @ STL	NY GIANTS	NY GIANTS	NY GIANTS	NY GIANTS	NY GIANTS	NY GIANTS
NO @ WAS	NEW ORLEANS	WASHINGTON	WASHINGTON	NEW ORLEANS	NEW ORLEANS	NEW ORLEANS
BUF @ JAC	JACKSONVILLE	JACKSONVILLE	JACKSONVILLE	BUFFALO	BUFFALO	JACKSONVILLE
TEN @ CIN	CINCINNATI	CINCINNATI	CINCINNATI	TENNESSEE	CINCINNATI	CINCINNATI
OAK @ KC	KANSAS CITY	KANSAS CITY	KANSAS CITY	OAKLAND	KANSAS CITY	KANSAS CITY
IND @ MIN	INDIANAPOLIS	INDIANAPOLIS	INDIANAPOLIS	INDIANAPOLIS	INDIANAPOLIS	INDIANAPOLIS
ATL @ TB	ATLANTA	TAMPA BAY	ATLANTA	ATLANTA	TAMPA BAY	ATLANTA
SF @ SEA	SEATTLE	SEATTLE	SAN FRANCISCO	SAN FRANCISCO	SEATTLE	SEATTLE
DEN @ DEN	DENVER	DENVER	SAN DIEGO	SAN DIEGO	DENVER	DENVER
MIA @ ARI	ARIZONA	ARIZONA	ARIZONA	MIAMI	ARIZONA	ARIZONA
NE @ NYJ	NEW ENGLAND	NEW ENGLAND	NY JETS	NY JETS	NY JETS	NEW ENGLAND
PIT @ CLE	PITTSBURGH	PITTSBURGH	PITTSBURGH	PITTSBURGH	PITTSBURGH	PITTSBURGH
BAL @ HOU	BALTIMORE	HOUSTON	BALTIMORE	BALTIMORE	BALTIMORE	BALTIMORE
PHI @ DAL	DALLAS	DALLAS	DALLAS	DALLAS	DALLAS	DALLAS
GUARANTEED PICK OF THE WEEK	DENVER	DENVER	DALLAS	NY GIANTS	NEW ORLEANS	BALTIMORE

BASKETBALL'S

From Page 28

said. "We were sitting with a lot of Kentucky fans and ... their tone was almost mocking, as if it was beneath their team to even play the Texas Western guys. That changed as the game went on."

Everything in college basketball was to change after that game. Within three years, Rupp and Kentucky had recruited an African-American player, and the entire Southeastern Conference, along with the rest of the ACC, was recruiting black players. Basketball people now refer to Texas Western-Kentucky as the Brown vs. Board of Education of college basketball.

Haskins, who went on to win 719 games in 38 years at the school now known as Texas at El Paso, found the attention humbling. He thought of himself as a coach who wanted to win because that was his job — not as a social reformer.

Of course, that's one of the reasons sports tends to be ahead of the curve when it comes to integration and doing the right thing. A scoreboard doesn't recognize color, only talent. It is not a coincidence that Jackie Robinson integrated Major League baseball seven years before the Brown decision. Branch Rickey, who ran the Brooklyn Dodgers, recruited Robinson because he wanted to integrate the sport but also because he knew the Negro Leagues were filled with talented players. And Boston Celtics coach Red Auerbach started five African-American players in the early 1960s—years before busing led to the integration of high school teams there and in most of the country. Whenever someone asked Auerbach about the symbolism of starting five blacks in a racially divided city such as Boston, he would laugh. "If there's one thing blacks and whites agree on," he would say, "it's that winning beats losing."

All that said, it still took guts in the 1960s to recruit black players to a small school in West Texas, travel through the South and play them at segregated schools where they were hooted at and taunted. Haskins grew up in the 1940s in a small town in Oklahoma with "white only" signs on water fountains. One of his best friends was Herman Carr, an African-American boy he played basketball with in the schoolyard. Years later, Carr talked about Haskins' shock when he learned there were places his friend wasn't allowed because of the color of his skin.

No doubt Haskins' goal that night in 1966 was beating Kentucky. His team had talented white players, but Haskins felt he needed his five quickest players on the floor against the very quick Wildcats. He chose his starters based on their talents, not their skin color.

That's also how he recruited players. Like all coaches, he wanted the best he could find. But he also knew that segregation was wrong long before he arrived at Texas Western in 1961. He proved it emphatically to the basketball world five years later. That is his legacy.

It is one that should be—and will be—remembered.

SHELL

From Page 28

ning the first qualifying round on May 17-18 for the first Final Four slot. It also prevailed in the second qualifying tournament held last Aug-2-3.

Natibu, which placed second in the second qualifying round, had also automatically gained the second Final Four slot.

The third slot is expected to be filed after Sunday's third qualifying tournament while the fourth slot will be determined via the wildcard tournament format.

The qualifying tournament for the wild card will be on Oct. 4-5 and the Final Four tournament that will determine the right to go to Palau will be on Oct. 10-11.

Game time between Shell Marianas and PTI is set at 1pm at the Capitol Hill Ball Field.

Before that, six other teams are hoping to come up with a good showing and stop Shell Marianas' juggernaut.

Redemption will face Saipal in the opening game at 9am to be followed by the encounter between Awel and Total Chaos at 10am with the winners of both matches to advance and meet in the second round of the winners' bracket.

The losing teams will go to the loser's bracket.

The winner of the Shell Marianas-PTI game will also advance and face the winner of the 11am encounter between On Da Rox and Natibu.

Today's games (total of eight) will determine the seeding for tomorrow's pairings when the winners for the top and bottom of the winners' bracket will face each other to determine the champion for the third round.

In case Shell Marianas and Natibu finish first and second (or vice versa), the third placer will earn the third slot for the Final Four.

After the first two qualifying rounds, the first four slots for the wildcard tournament showed Saipal at No. 1 and Total Chaos at No. 2. On Da Rox is at No. 3 and SUFA is at No. 4.

Spicing up Sunday's games will be the Home Run Derby scheduled at 12pm with an entry fee of $10.

The first placer will get a beach chair and a case of beer, second a beach chair, and third a shirt and a hat.

Tournament director Joey de la Cruz said there would also be cash prizes to be given out.

The tournament is jointly sponsored by Budweiser, MARPAC, and Continental Micronesia.

K-Rod ties saves record in win over Mariners

Francisco Rodriguez got the final three outs for his 57th save to tie Bobby Thigpen's major league record, and the Los Angeles Angels beat the Seattle Mariners 7-4 on Thursday night. 25

Saipan Tribune
Sports

Special start for a special season

In my best Al Michaels "Do you believe in miracles?" Yes, the Buffalo Bills found a way to circle the wagons in Orchard Park, N.Y., and beat the Seattle Seahawks to open the 2008-09 season with a win at home...just like I predicted. 27

Knights beat Geckos in JV volleyball

By NAZARIO RODRIGUEZ JR.
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REPORTER

Defending champion Seventh Day Adventist quickly recovered from its first game jitters by winning over Saipan International School Blue in the junior varsity division of the 2008 Coalition of Private Schools Volleyball League at home turf Thursday.

The Knights were pushed to a grueling three-set battle before prevailing with a 25-20, 30-28, 15-13 count over the relentless Blue Geckos.

With the win, the Knights are now 1-1 following their opening day loss to Whispering Palms last Tuesday.

"We have good communication this time," said coach Angie Perez.

She said they have been practicing a lot in preparation for this season.

With good players in the fold, team effort she said will be a key factor for retaining the junior varsity crown.

For SDA's high school team, which is coached by Nicole French, the Knights want to rebound next week after losing their first assignment to SIS-Blue also Thursday.

The Blue Geckos varsity team easily went home with a 25-8, 25-18 victory at the expense of the error-prone SDA varsity.

SDA will host Calvary Christian School on Sept. 16 in both high school and middle school divisions.

SIS Blue will face sister team SIS-Green also on Sept. 16.

Results in the other games were unavailable as of press time.

The rained out games between Marianas Baptist Academy and defending champion Grace Christian Academy in the high school division was played yesterday at the MBA court starting at 3:30pm.

GCA was scheduled against SIS-Green yesterday while MBA was set against CCA.

The other games played yesterday were WPS vs. MCS and CCA vs. SCS.

NAZARIO RODRIGUEZ JR.

A frontliner from Saipan International School Blue Team tries a two-handed return but failed in this play against SDA last Thursday in the high school division of the ongoing 2008 coalition of Private Schools Volleyball League at the SDA court. SIS Blue won this game, 15-8, 15-18.

Corrections, Legislature tied in power-outage halted match

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

The exit door awaiting the first team to be eliminated in the playoffs of the Inaugural PTI Inter-Government/Business Basketball League remains closed after the Legislature-Department of Corrections tiff at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium Thursday night was suspended due to a power outage.

Both the Lawmakers and Correction lost their first match in the double-elimination playoffs thus another defeat would mean an early shower for neither team. The Legislature and Corrections bowed to NMC and Autonomous, respectively, in similar scores, 82-68.

Thursday night's game was suspended at the 8:37 mark in the fourth period with the match tied at 69-all.

The fourth quarter began with Corrections ahead by six, 69-63, but a 6-0 start brought the Legislature back in business. But just when the Lawmakers were gaining momentum, the power went off, halting a game in the PTI caging for the first time since last week.

The league completed matches in the first round of the playoffs as the power went off either before the game started or after it finished.

But Thursday night, luck was not on Corrections and the Legislature's side. The continuation of the match is scheduled for tomorrow after the game between

See CORRECTIONS on Page 26

Corrections' Walter Mendez goes for a hook shot against Legislature defenders during their power outage-suspended game in the PTI caging playoffs Thursday night at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Shell Marianas meets PTI in 3rd King of the Diamond qualifier

By NAZARIO RODRIGUEZ JR.
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REPORTER

Shell Marianas will try to assert its lofty billing when it battles unheralded PTI in one of four first round elimination matches in today's 3rd qualifying round of the 2008 Budweiser King and Queen of the Diamonds Modified Co-ed Slowpitch Softball Tournament.

Then still known as No Ka Oi, Shell Marianas won the Tournament of Champions for the past three years in Palau in 2005, on Saipan in 2006, and in Guam in 2007.

Palau will host the Tournament of Champions again in November this year.

CNMI teams are competing in a series of qualifying tournaments with Shell Marianas win-

See SHELL on Page 27

By JOHN FEINSTEIN
Special to The Washington Post

Basketball's game-changer

On the night of March 19, 1966, Texas Western basketball coach Don Haskins started five African-Americans—known then in popular vernacular as Negroes—in the national championship game against an all-white team from the University of Kentucky.

Haskins, who died of congestive heart failure Sunday at age 78, would say years later that he started those five players for one reason: He thought it was the best way to win the game. "I wasn't trying to make any kind of statement," he said. "I thought those five guys gave us our best chance to win."

Texas Western was a huge underdog against Kentucky, which was seeking a fifth national title under the legendary coach Adolph Rupp, but the Miners won the game, 72-65. That game is now considered the most important in the history of college basketball because it literally changed the face of the sport.

"I remember walking out afterwards hearing the Kentucky fans saying to one another, `We need to get some of THEM,' " Maryland basketball coach Gary Williams said this week. "It wasn't long afterwards that everyone began to recruit THEM."

Williams was then a 22-year-old Maryland junior. He sat with a teammate, Billy Jones, during the game, which was played at Maryland's Cole Field House. Jones was the first African-American to play at Maryland and in the Atlantic Coast Conference.

"I can remember seeing how much it meant to Billy," Williams

See BASKETBALL'S on Page 27